

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO AND WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

S.S. "HONAM," 3,553 tons, Captain S. Bell Smith.
S.S. "POWAN," 3,338 tons, H. I. Black.
S.S. "FATSHAN," 3,260 tons, C. V. Lloyd.
S.S. "KINSHAN," 1,995 tons, R. Branch.
S.S. "HEUNGSHAN," 1,995 tons, R. D. Thomas.
Departures from HONGKONG to CANTON daily at 8 A.M. (Sunday excepted), to P.M. (Saturday excepted).
Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. (Sunday excepted).
The S.S. "POWAN" will leave Hongkong every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 9 P.M. from Queen Street Wharf West, returning from Canton every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 5.30 P.M.
These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River. Special attention is drawn to their Superior Saloons and Cabin Accommodation.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD. HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "SUI-AN," 1,651 tons, Captain W. A. Valentine.
S.S. "SUI-TAI," 1,651 tons, G. F. Morrison.
Departures from Hongkong to Macao on week days at 8 A.M. from DOUGLAS WHARF, and at 2 P.M. from the COMPANY'S WHARF.
On Sundays Special Cheap Excursions leaving Hongkong at 9 A.M. from DOUGLAS WHARF and from Macao at 5 P.M.
The Company also runs a steamer from Macao on Sunday morning at 7.30 A.M. and from Hongkong at 1 P.M. from the Company's wharf.
Departures from Macao to Hongkong on week days at 7.30 A.M. and 2 P.M.

CANTON-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "LUNGSHAN," 1,195 tons, Captain W. Reynell. (At Dock).
Departures from Macao to Canton on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 9 A.M.
Departures from Canton to Macao on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 5 P.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE H.K. C. AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "SAINAM," 588 tons, Captain J. Willox.
S.S. "NANNING," 569 tons, Mackinnon.
One of the above steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at about 8 A.M., and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days at 8.30 A.M. Round trips take about 5 days. These vessels have Superior Cabin Accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—
HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.
Hotel Mansions, (First Floor), opposite the Hongkong Hotel,
Or of BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents, CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 12th September, 1907.

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

HONGKONG-WUCHOW LINE.

THE Steamers "LINTAN" and "SAN-UI"
SAIL FROM HONGKONG TWICE A WEEK AND COMPLETE THE ROUND TRIP IN 6 DAYS.
These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted Throughout by Electricity.
A TRIP ON THE WEST RIVER IS PARTICULARLY REFRESHING AND EXHILARATING DURING THE HOT WEATHER.
For further information apply to—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents,
WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. COMPANIES.
Hongkong, 9th August, 1907.

REGULAR HONGKONG-CANTON LINE OF STEAMERS

COMPAGNIE FRANCAISE DES INDES ET DE L'EXTREME ORIENT.

S.S. "PAUL BEAU," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.
S.S. "CHARLES HARDOUIN," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

The speediest, most luxuriously appointed and punctual steamers on the line.
Departure from Hongkong at 9.30 P.M. (Sundays excepted).
Departure from Canton at 5.15 P.M. (Sundays excepted).

These superb steamers carrying the French Mail are fitted throughout with Electric Light and Fans and were specially built for this trade. Excellent cuisine.
The Company's Wharf is at the end of Wing Lok Street (Tram Station).
Canton Agents—Messrs. E. Pasquet & Co.
For further particulars, please apply to—
BARRETTO & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 5th April, 1907.

IMPERIAL BREWING COMPANY, LIMITED.

PURE CREAM BEER.

For samples and prices please apply to

WINE GROWERS SUPPLY CO.,

BARRETTO & CO.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, 26th September, 1907.

Hotel.

KOWLOON HOTEL, HONGKONG.

NEEDS NO ADVERTISING.

World-Wide Reputation.
The only First-Class Hotel in Kowloon.
Most Charming and Popular Resort in the Colony.
Electric Lights, Fans and Call Bells.
Bath Rooms attached to Each Room.

Unrivalled for Comfort and Cuisine.
Thoroughly Up to Date with Every Modern Luxury.
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Moderate Terms and No Extras.
Modern Management.

Telegraphic Address:

"CHEF" HONGKONG,
Telephone No. K4.

O. E. OWEN,
Proprietor.
[708]

Intimation.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

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Length inside 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft. bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.

Length inside, 575 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft. bottom 45.3 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 3 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyd's surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Towboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Scaffolding and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 378, 108, or 681.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt.

Liebers, Sonntags.

A. 1, and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905.

Mails.

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FOR STEAMERS TO SAIL

SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE } "ROON" About TUESDAY,
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NAPLES, GENOA, ALCIERS, } "GOLDEN" WEDNESDAY,
GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, } Capt. Wilhelm Nov. 9th Oct., 1907.
ANTWERP and HAMBURG }

MANILA, NEWGUINEA BRIS- } "MANILA" THURSDAY,
BANE, SYDNEY and MEL- } Capt. Minssen Nov. 19th Oct., 1907.
BOURNE }

YOKOHAMA and KOBE "PRINCE WALDEMAR" About THURSDAY,
Capt. W. v. Senden the 18th Oct., 1907.

KUDAT and SANDAKAN "BORNEO" Beginning of October,
Capt. F. Sembill 1907.

For further Particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD

MELCHERS & CO.,

GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong 26th September, 1907.

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BETWEEN
JAVA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Steamer.	From	Expected on or about	Will leave for	On or about
TJILIWONG	JAPAN	Second half Sept.	JAVA PORTS	First half Oct.
TJIBODAS	JAVA	Second half Oct.	JAPAN	Second half Oct.
TJIMAH	JAPAN	Second half Oct.	JAVA PORTS	Second half Oct.
TJIKINI	JAPAN	Second half Oct.	JAVA PORTS	Second half Oct.
TJIPANAS	JAPAN	Second half Nov.	JAVA PORTS	Second half Nov.
TJILATJAP	JAPAN	Second half Nov.	JAVA PORTS	Second half Nov.

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have Accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherland India Ports in through Bills of Lading.

For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to

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YORK BUILDINGS, 1st floor,

Hongkong, 26th September, 1907.

Dentistry.

TSHIN TING.

LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.

STUDIO AT NO. 14, D'AGUILAR STREET.

REASONABLE FEE.

Consultation Free.

Hongkong, 26th June, 1904.

Dr. M. H. CHANN.

THE LATEST METHOD

OF THE

AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY

33, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.
Hongkong, 16th April, 1905.

PASSION FRUIT.

"Plums?" I asked as the steward handed me a dish heaped up with dark purple globes. "No, sir; passion fruit, Sir," replied the steward, I glanced inquiringly at my vis-a-vis, an Australian girl. "Don't you know passion fruit?" she said, "then this is one of the great joys of your life." "How many passion fruits must I take to make it really great?" I asked. "Well, say half a dozen; and then the steward and better put the plate out of your reach, for after you have tasted the first one you will want to take all the rest."

So I helped myself to half a dozen, and found that the dark purple skin which had suggested plums at first sight was in reality a hard rind. Then, imitating my fair instructor, I cut the top off with a knife, as if one were performing a similar operation on an egg, and I had in hand a natural cup, filled with a greenish yellow pulp, in which were a number of flatish circular seeds. "And now?" I queried. "Well, there are lots of ways of eating passion fruit," she said, "but you had better start with them as nature intended. Just dip in your spoon and begin, and tell me what it tastes like." With something of the emotion of an explorer entering upon a new country I put the luscious spoonful to my mouth—closed my eyes—and tasted rapturously. "Well, the flavour?" I opened my eyes and replied unhesitatingly. "Why, it's gooseberry—no, raspberry—er, let's see"—another spoonful—"oh, that's pineapple—or currant—or is it strawberry?" "Ha! Ha! I don't know. What is it?" "I don't know either," she said. "I've been curious to learn what you would say; for if you had been able to make up your mind what passion fruit tastes of you would have been the first person I ever met that could." And so I found it; passion fruit suggests in turn each of your favourite fruits without committing itself definitely to any one of them. But its elusive flavour is none the less one of the most delicious I have tasted, and I gave myself up to its delights without seeking further to diagnose it.

This introduction to passion fruit took place on a liner on the Australian coast. The question I immediately put to myself was, "Why have we not this delicious fruit in England?" I made inquiries, and was informed that it would not stand the sea voyage. I was further told an anecdote to the effect that Queen Victoria had a great desire to taste all the fruits of her Empire, and that her wish had been gratified in regard to all but the passion fruit, which it had been found impossible to convey home in good condition. I am not at all prepared to vouch for the correctness of this assertion; on the contrary, I am much inclined to question it. And in any case, it seems likely that the streetboy of to-day may be able to enjoy a luxury that, according to the story, was denied to his sovereign. For in the Octava has been sent to England a consignment of passion fruit, with a view to testing the possibilities of trade. And if the venture proves satisfactory, I will take upon myself to prophesy that in the course of a year or two the London public will be readily able to procure this charming fruit and that in a year or two longer the coster will be selling it from his barrow.

For unquestionably it is a most delectable fruit, and will capture the public taste. The only essential factor is that it should be cheap. I have been told—but I am by no means confident of the accuracy of the statement—that passion fruit from Italy has been obtainable of the fashionable West-end fruiterers. If this is so, it must have been at prices quite prohibitive to the general public. But in Australia passion fruit is very cheap. I have myself bought them at twelve a penny, though these were rather poor in quality. Nevertheless, six a penny is a common price, and at four a penny one can buy first-class passion fruit in most of the towns of Australia. Now this is a trade which has been very little worked up. (If there were a large export demand it can hardly be doubted that passion fruit could be grown exceedingly cheaply. The vine is very prolific. Many people grow it as a creeper over their verandahs, and its pretty flowers is a lovely harbinger of the fruit that soon afterwards its twining limbs. Freight should not be a very important factor when large shipments are concerned—witness what has been accomplished in the case of bananas. And I feel very confident that if the trade is worked up it should not be long before passion fruit at four a penny are on sale on the coster's barrows of London.

In New South Wales passion fruit appears to be obtainable all the year round, though in the winter months they are less plentiful and more expensive—up to 6d a dozen. The winter supply probably comes from North Queensland or Fiji. In summer, of course, the fruit would be most welcome in England. On a sultry day nothing could be more refreshing than some passion fruit. It has usually a slightly acid taste, so that most people prefer to eat it with powdered sugar. Epicures say that it is best with a little port wine put in it. It is before it is taken with the spoon out of its natural cup. This is certainly a most seductive way of consuming it. Half a dozen passion fruit, emptied on a plate, and mixed with sugar and cream makes a dish for a gourmet. To a fruit salad passion fruit adds a charming flavour; but for this purpose it should be passed through a strainer to separate the pulp from the seeds, which are hard, and are not altogether grateful when encountered by the teeth in process of masticating some of the other components of the salad. For claret and champagne cups and for soft drinks, as Australians call non-alcoholic beverages, the passion fruit pulp, freed of seeds, is most palatable. But once get it on the market and dozens of uses for it will be found. Moreover, it will strengthen the bonds of union between the Mother-Country and Australia, if such fortifying were necessary, which, despite interested reports to the contrary, certainly is not. But it would be impossible to quarrel with kinmen across the sea who sent us passion fruit.

Hotel.

KING EDWARD HOTEL.

A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.

LADIES' AFTERNOON TEA-ROOMS.
PRIVATE BAR and BILLIARD-ROOMS.
HOT and COLD WATER throughout.
ELECTRICALLY LIGHTED. ELECTRIC FANS (if required).
ELECTRIC PASSENGER ELEVATOR to each floor.
TABLE D'HOTE at separate tables.
For Terms, &c., apply to the—
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 4th December, 1907. [27]

To Let.

TO LET.

ONE FOUR-ROOMED HOUSE at PRAYA EAST, near East Point.
Apply to—
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LD.
Hongkong, 22nd June, 1907. [87]

TO LET.

A HOUSE in KNOTSFORD TERRACE, KOWLOON.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1907. [66]

TO LET.

LARGE and SPACIOUS GODOWNS Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, PRAYA EAST, formerly in the occupation of the Admiralty.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1907. [439]

TO LET.

HATHERLEIGH, Conduit Road.
No. 1, RIFON TERRACE, Bonham Road.
OFFICES in KING'S BUILDING and YORK BUILDING.
GODOWNS on PRAYA EAST.
A HOUSE in CLIFTON GARDENS, Conduit Road.
FLATS in MORRISON TERRACE.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1907. [649]

TO LET.

2ND FLOOR—No. 12, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
No. 38, CAINE ROAD, AUCTION ROOMS, No. 2, ZETLAND STREET.
GREENCROFT, GARDEN ROAD, Kowloon, Redecorated, Electric Light, Tennis Court.
Nos. 1 & 2, FAIRVIEW, ROBINSON ROAD, Kowloon.
Apply to—
LEIGH & ORANGE,
1, Des Voeux Road,
Hongkong, 13th August, 1907. [741]

TO LET.

HOUSE No. 2, ROSE TERRACE, Kowloon.
HOUSE No. 1, ROSE TERRACE, Kowloon, from 1st August next.
Apply to—
COMPRADORE,
Batteille & Co.,
Hongkong, 24th July 1907. [661]

TO BE LET.

A S from the 1st August next, No. 1, MORRISON HILL.
Apply to—
Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 20th June, 1907. [674]

HUMBER CYCLES.

THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

Cycles Makers

ROYAL WARRANTS

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AND

H.B.H. PRINCE OF WALES.

WITH THE LATEST BEST 3 SPEEDER, GEAR CASES and DUNLOP TYRES.

From \$120 to \$150 each.

GUARANTEE FOR 3 YEARS.

WILL CLIMB ANY HILL ON THE LOW OF P.P.

Portsmouth Evening News: "For 38 years the name of the HUMBER has been as a guarantee of good workmanship."

DRAGON CYCLE DEPOT,

AGENTS,

12, D'AGUILAR STREET and KOWLOON.
Hongkong, 19th July, 1907. [462]

Intimation.



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ESTABLISHED A.D. 1847.

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BY APPOINTMENT TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR AND HOUSEHOLD.

WATSON'S HOUSEHOLD AMMONIA.

An Elegant Preparation for the Toilet and Bath, Refreshing and Invigorating.

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An Efficacious Remedy. GIVES INSTANT RELIEF.

PURE CARBOLIC SOAPS.

Highly Recommended by the Medical Faculty.

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Guaranteed to contain 20 per cent. of Pure Carbolic Acid.

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TOILET SOAP.

Guaranteed to contain 5 per cent. of Pure Carbolic Acid.

FRAGRANT TOOTH WASH.

Antiseptic and Detergent—Whitens the Teeth and strengthens the Gums.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

CHEMISTS, DRUGGISTS AND PERFUMERS.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 7th September, 1907.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1907.

HONGKONG'S FINANCES.

Now that the draft Estimates of the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for next year have been before the members of the Legislative Council for the better part of a fortnight, and those of the general public who take an intelligent interest in the administration of the Colony's affairs have had an opportunity of considering the columns of items which make up the Estimates, we do not consider it inappropriate to refer as briefly as possible to some of the more outstanding features of the Colony's financial prospects as revealed in the Estimates. When the Appropriation Bill was introduced at the last meeting of the Legislative Council, His Excellency the Governor delivered what was intended to be an explanatory statement as to the reasons which had led the Government to reduce the Estimates for various departments, but as His Excellency himself admitted he could scarcely be expected to have acquired any very profound knowledge of the affairs of the Colony during the short space of his residence here. His Excellency's optimistic references to public works in particular and his assurance that the Colony would suffer no material loss by adopting the retrograde policy of starving works of public utility need not, therefore, be taken too seriously. Before dealing with the Budget we would desire to record a word of commendation for the admirable form in which the Estimates are presented to the Colony this year. Unlike previous Budgets, the clerical presentation of the Colony's financial affairs for the forthcoming year has been so arranged that reference may be made to any and every subject with the utmost facility, so that the heads of departments and others whose business involves daily reference to the Estimates will find the subject of their quest at a moment's notice, while unofficial members and Press reviewers are not likely to find themselves befogged amid a labyrinth of figures and cross-references as not infrequently happened when the Budget was built up on the old plan. The classification of the departments, the statements regarding the proportion of the taxes and the rate they bear to the total revenue are decidedly important innovations. For example under Class I, taxes are divided into light dues and licences and internal revenue. From these it is estimated a total sum of \$1,565,770 will be derived, which is equal to 68.4 per cent. of the Colony's

revenue. Under Class II, we have the estimated "Earnings of Government," amounting to \$798,310 or 32.8 per cent. of the Colony's revenue; Class III, "Rents and interest" is expected to provide \$744,750 or 30.2 per cent.; Class IV, "Miscellaneous," \$69,100 or 2.8 per cent.; and Class V, "Land Sales," \$500,000 or 20.2 per cent. With regard to the Estimates of expenditure, general administration is calculated to cost \$1,058,107 or 42.5 per cent. of the total; law and order \$943,433 or 37.8 per cent.; public health \$712,167 or 28.2 per cent.; education, \$200,016 or 7.8 per cent.; defence \$1,231,494 or 48.9 per cent.; public works \$1,528,526 or 59.7 per cent.; and non-effective and charitable services \$1,477,875 or 58.5 per cent. While we commend the form of classification adopted by the Government, we would offer one suggestion which we believe would materially enhance the value of the explanations accompanying various items in the Estimates. We allude to the footnotes, which in many cases tend to make obscure more obscure with their references to some unknown "C.S.O." or forgotten "C.O.D." The reader is entirely in the dark as to the nature of those official recommendations or necessities which have involved the changes in the Estimates either at the instance of the local Secretariat or the Colonial Office at home. In many cases the alterations are undoubtedly the result of official or departmental minutes which have had an important bearing on the Estimates, and it should be possible for the Government in future to provide a *précis* of these minutes or despatches for the guidance of those who are not in a position to obtain the information necessary for a complete understanding of the items concerned without undue trouble. Leaving that point, we come to the question of the assessed taxes of the Colony, a subject with which we dealt some two months ago when reviewing the assessor's report for 1907-8. From that report and from the Estimates before us we are forced to the conclusion that the rateable value of the Colony has reached its limit. It is not to be expected that the city of Victoria will show any marked signs of expansion in the near future, and if the revenue of the Colony is to increase under this head we shall have to place our trust in the growth of Kowloon and the villages on the mainland. Fortunately, we have every reason to believe that our hopes for the prosperity of what we are at present pleased to term Hongkong's suburbs are well founded, and that the Colony is leaning on no broken reed when it anticipates a rise in the assessment returns when Kowloon comes into its own. With regard to the opium monopoly, which, naturally, comes under the head of licences, that is a subject which has been frequently and exhaustively alluded to in these columns. At any moment the sum of nearly one and a half million dollars may be wiped off the Colony's revenue, and it will be a bad day for Hongkong when we are compelled by the Imperial Government, acting at the behest of a band of irresponsible fanatics whose main delight is to see their fellow-countrymen reduced to the verge of beggary, to forego a legitimate and perfectly proper source of income. A small item connected with the returns from licences is of the utmost significance. It comes under the head of "prospecting licences in the New Territories," and the sum which the Government expects to derive from those licences next year is \$6,000, as compared with \$1,000 this year. It is not the paltry increase by \$5,000 to which we attach importance as any material enhancement of the Colony's revenue, but it is the potentialities attaching to the purchase of such licences which must strike the reader as worthy of quiet consideration. The cause of the serious depreciation in the earnings of the Post Office to the extent of over \$300,000 was fully explained by the Governor and nothing further need be said on the subject. Apart from these main items, the others show no marked advance or diminution in comparison with the approved Estimates for the current year. Coming to the Estimates of expenditure there are several features which call for remark, but none so glaring as the disparities which are shown in the provision made for the various departments. It has been frequently stated, as it is generally admitted, that the shipping trade is the lifeblood of the Colony. Consequently, it might have been supposed that the holder of the substantive position of Harbour-master in the leading tonnage port in the Empire would be remunerated on a scale befitting the importance and dignity of his high office, and in proportion to the onerous duties which have to be carried out under his supervision. Not only has the Harbour-master, with his staff of assistants, to control and regulate the affairs of the port, but he has to deal with a unique condition of things in attending to the requirements of a floating population whose great aim in many instances appears to be the thwarting of those who seek to make them amenable to the Colony's regulations, and whose colossal assumed ignorance is not to be measured in words. At no other port in the world is the Harbour-master required to maintain such an equitable temperament or display such a versatility of talent and resource as at Hongkong, yet he is regarded by the Govern-

ment as one of the least valuable of our public servants. Instead of receiving a salary in proportion to the importance of his office, as compared with the salaries paid to other officials whose principal duties are the tying of red tape and the signing of their august names, he is fobbed off with £280 which will rise by triennial increments of £60 until the limit of £400 is reached. But let us not be unfair to the Government. Captain Basil Taylor has his perquisites like everybody else; he receives fees for acting as "nautical assessor" in Admiralty cases, and if he is lucky he may make as much as £100 in the short space of one year. It is beside the point to say that any expert witness may claim about the same amount for one day's evidence. To put it in another way, the head of the Harbour Department controlling over thirty million tons of shipping gets \$650 a month, a trifle more—\$30 to be exact—than a very subordinate officer in another department, where no practical or technical knowledge is required. Closely allied to the Harbour Department is the Observatory, the director of which is an officer, who, by virtue of his special knowledge and technical qualifications, not to speak of his scientific attainments, is ineligible for promotion in any other department of the Government service. Mr. Viggs's personal emoluments, including exchange compensation, amount to \$4,500 per annum, and the entire services which the Observatory is called upon to perform for the Colony cost no more than \$18,664—which is a reduction of about \$1,000 on the current year's Estimates—or a mere pittance of \$1,500 per month. It will thus be seen that the whole of the Observatory staff and "other charges" do not cost the Colony much more than the salary which attaches to one of the higher-paid offices in the administrative department of the Government service. It should be pointed out that the Observatory staff consists of four experts in meteorology and astronomy, three computers, two telegraphists, a watchman and three coders, besides a telegraph messenger—a total of thirteen individuals. The incidentals include laboratory expenses and the printing and distribution of the meteorological register, which is issued daily throughout the year for the benefit of the shipping community. It may be argued that the Observatory officials are entitled to house accommodation, etc., but the very nature of their duties renders it imperative that they should be on the spot day and night in order that the news of any sudden convulsion of nature may be spread broadcast over the Colony. Were the director of the Observatory from the point of view to be compared with the secretary of any local company he would be placed in a most invidious position. But then, may we whisper it *sub Rosa*, the Director of the Observatory, like the Harbour Master of Hongkong, does not belong to the hallowed race known as Cadeis, and therefore—Turning to another subject, the Government have made provision to the extent of \$50,000 for a floating fire engine, and not before it was needed. A floating fire engine is one of those absolute necessities for a port of the size of Hongkong that cannot be shelved and we have time and again urged that the Government should recognise the importance of attending to the equipment of the harbour's fire-fighting machines. Following the *Hankow* holocaust in October last year and the recommendations of the Marine Court of Inquiry—which we condemned *in toto*—and which we are glad to see were never adopted by the Government—we remarked that the acquisition of an additional fire-float was one of those essentials, for the safety of the shipping, that could no longer be deferred. Had it not been that the fire on the *Hankow* only burst out after the vessel had been moored to her wharf it is horrible to think of what would have taken place. As it was the fire was only extinguished by the aid of British bluejackets, and the assistance of a private company owning some steam water boats. It was also possible for the land fire-engines to direct their hoses on the fire simply through the accident of the vessel's position. But fire on board ship do not commonly occur while she is at her wharf, and without a fire-float in the harbour the *Hankow* disaster would have been infinitely more calamitous than it was, had it occurred before the vessel reached her anchorage. When we decry the agitation which was engineered last year by those who demanded a treble exchange compensation in the interests of the higher-paid Government servants in Hongkong, that is to say, for the benefit of those hailing from a gold-using country, we submitted that the resources of the Colony could not bear this extra strain which the taxpayers would be called upon to meet, and we argued that the public works of the Colony would suffer in order to provide for this extra expenditure for the administration of the Government of Hongkong. That our prediction did not fall far short of the mark is clear from the programme of public works arranged for 1908. For the current year provision to the extent of \$455,500 was made for the construction of the new Law Courts, but for next year less than a quarter of that sum

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The German mail of the 28th August was delivered in London on the 27th inst.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint the Reverend T. H. Vowel, of the Basel Mission, to be a member of the Board of Examiners in succession to the Reverend G. Gussmann, resigned.

Two posts of assistant superintendent of police and police magistrates in the New Territories have been amalgamated and Mr. E. R. Hallifax continues to perform the duties of both these posts under the title of District Officer.

Two Sam-shui-po manslaughter trials, in which Peir Dux and two of his Indian cattle-men are charged with the manslaughter of a farmer at Sam-shui-po, last month, an account of which was reported in these columns, was concluded at the Police Court, yesterday afternoon. Mr. Melbourne commended the accused for trial.

Telegrams.

HONGKONG TELEGRAPH SERVICE. THE WUHOW EMEUTE. KEROSENE DEPOT EXPLOSION.

BRITISH CONSULATE GUARDED.

[From a Correspondent.]

Wuchow, 27th September, 6.50 p.m.

The disastrous conflagration, which broke out in the city this morning, has been extinguished.

During the progress of the fire the Kerosene Depot exploded.

So far, it is approximately estimated that the number of lives lost, by the riotous outbreak, is about one hundred.

The estimate of damage in property is roughly placed at not less than a quarter million dollars. It is more than probable that, when an estimate of the enormous damage by fire and mob violence comes to be computed, the quarter-million limit will be greatly exceeded.

Mob law obtains in the native city, which is being looted by the rioters.

His Majesty's river gunboat *Robin* is guarding the British Consulate.

All foreigners within the settlement are safe.

THE BRITISH CONSULAR BUILDINGS are situated at the west, in a commanding position, on a hill 20 feet in height, rising at the junction of the Fu River with the main stream. On the crest (since made even) is the residence—a spacious bungalow, with lodge, etc.; while half-way up the hill are the offices (and constables' quarters)—a solid, two-story red-brick building. The ensemble suggests Dover Castle to the exiled Briton, and the effect is very striking to any one approaching the port for the first time. The Consulate is remote from the social and business centre.

ORIGIN OF THE TROUBLE.

OFFICIAL "SQUEEZE" ANSWERABLE.

A REMARKABLE FORECAST.

Wuchow, 26th September.

Advertising to the notes on the Likin trouble question, published in your issue of the 25th, the following further particulars may be of interest.

One of the leading exporters of cereals throws some light on the present question. In an interview he stated: "The present trouble is serious. The ways of the Likin officials are unknown to foreigners. Take a typical case of what we have to experience in the importation of a single cargo of rice or wheat from so near a place as Kwei Ping. Between Kwei Ping and Wuchow we have to pass 3 Likin barriers, and this is what happens: On arrival at the first barrier the master of the junk hands in his *Tung Shui* document for, say, 100 piculs of cereals. The *Tung Shui* system came into existence with the ratification of the Sir James Mackay Treaty in 1858 whereby it was established that a merchant could ship goods from one port of origin to port of destination under a cargo certificate system, and pay one export duty at port of shipment and one import duty at port of destination. The issue of a cargo certificate for the original amount of goods shipped is called a *Tung Shui* document, and a cargo covered by such a document was exempt from payment of further fees or taxes at barriers. Well, this is entirely ignored by the Likin Officials. On handing over our *Tung Shui* document to the Likin Official in charge, he carefully examines it and then tries to find fault with the seals, the date, or some other trivial thing. After a vexatious and unnecessary detention, we are informed that the Likin official does not believe that the junk contains only 100 piculs. The Likin peo insist that the junk holds 150 piculs or so and eventually coolly informs us that he has decided that the junk has at least 200 piculs on board. The matter is then argued out and eventually we are asked to pay duty on a 20% excess or be refused a clearance. In the end we pay this 'squeeze' of 20 per cent. A repetition occurs at the second and third barrier, and by the time the cargo is landed in Wuchow we have paid duty on 60 per cent of our imaginary excess. We seem to have no option in the matter, for we have to pay or get detained by the refusal of a clearance."

In answer to the question: "But why don't you have your cargo tallied out at the first barrier, and then get a correct tally certificate to ensure you a clearance at the other barriers?" the merchant simply laughed. "Why," said he, "that is where the present trouble comes in. The officials are bound to score off us anyway we look at it. If we were to ask to have our cargo tallied out, we should be still more out of pocket. For instance, if the goods had to be weighed, the officials would produce a 5-foot steel yard which has been shortened 3 inches in the middle. The consequent result is that goods weighed with such a scale would show an excess of 30 per cent, instead of 20 per cent that we have to pay on at present. If the goods had to be measured they produce foot rules that have been shortened from 5 to 3 inches and seriously inform us that these are standard measures. It is the abolition of these false weights and measures that

constitutes our grievance and a very serious grievance it is. The officials are content with our views, which we have respectfully submitted to them, but our petition to have these abuses inquired into and abolished have been firmly ignored."

The matter now stands at a crisis. If the officials yield by tomorrow, well and good. If they don't, we are reluctantly compelled to order a cessation of business both in import and export."

"It is a very serious thing, but we have no alternative and we are firmly resolved to stick up for our rights."

The merchant positively refused to give any intimation of what nature the trouble, if any, would take. Rumour says that the burning of the big Likin station, below the Custom House, will be one of the acts of destruction. There is no sign of any anti-foreign feeling, but it is understood locally that the British Consul thought it advisable to hurry H.M.S. *Robin* up from Yuet Sing as a precautionary measure.

The Total who went to Canton a few days ago is expected back early to-morrow morning when the question of whether there will be trouble or not will be definitely settled.

DISAFFECTION AT NANNING.

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS.

[From a Correspondent.]

Wuchow, 28th September, 10.30 a.m.

Advice received from Nanning state that business was suspended at that port yesterday.

[Evidently the disaffection, which culminated in the outbreak at Wuchow yesterday, has spread to Nanning.—Ed., H.K.]

STEEL CRUISER FOR CHINA.

Yesterday, Messrs. W. S. Bailey & Co., the well known shipbuilders, despatched to Canton the steel cruiser *Loong Sung* ("Flying Dragon") built by them for the Chinese Government. The vessel is 102 feet in length by 19 feet beam and draws only three feet of water, being fitted for shallow water navigation. The engines are compound twin screw and the vessel is constructed on the hollow stern principle so that when at rest the propellers are partly out of water, but when going ahead are covered by the water which is drawn into the tunnel in which they revolve.

Messrs. Bailey & Co. have built a number of shallow draft vessels on this principle and drawing as little as 1 foot of water. The *Loong Sung* is fitted with excellent accommodation for officers and crew, the cabins being neatly upholstered and painted in white and gold. She is fitted with gun-shields and platforms to mount two quick-firing guns forward, and has easily exceeded the contract speed of ten knots, with remarkable freedom from vibration, the engines running at 200 revolutions per minute with the utmost smoothness.

The *Loong Sung* has a bridge deck and pole mast with cross jack yard, and made a pretty picture as she steamed at full speed through the harbour flying the Dragon Flag.

The work has been carried out under the inspection of Capt. T. P. Hall.—*Critchfield*.

SAMPAW WOMAN'S SURPRISE.

A TRICKY BIG OF RICE.

What was believed at first to have been a practical joke played on a coolie at Wen Pui a few days ago, presents an entirely different aspect to-day. On Sunday morning last, it will be remembered, a District watchman arrested a street coolie on the Praya Water for being in unlawful possession of a bag of what he thought, was rice. The coolie, Leung Hi, was removed to No. 7 Police Station and the watchman related his case to the officer on duty. Inspector Collett ordered the bag to be opened, and, to the amazement of all around, the contents were discovered to be sand and stones! The whole station was amused, and Leung Hi was released from custody, it being the opinion that "poor" Leung was the victim of a trick, performed by some irresponsible person. Nothing more was heard of the affair until Thursday forenoon when Leung was hauled into the station again, followed by an irate sampaw woman, who accused him of obtaining from her \$1.30 by means of a trick. 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Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

THE KANCHOW MASSACRE.

CULMINATION OF BOXERISM.

ONE PRIEST KILLED. OTHERS ESCAPE.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 27th September, 5 p.m.

The riot, reported in my first telegram, near the city of Kanchow, is the culmination of Boxerism which has been rampant in Kiangsi Province since July last.

Tho. Rev. Father Candujia, an Italian priest, was killed in the melee.

A French priest succeeded in effecting his escape.

Many converts were ruthlessly massacred.

The mission station at Kanchow has been burnt out.

The missionaries escaped to the yamen, thence to Kianfu.

The Reverend Superior of the Lazarites Order, to which the French missionaries belong, wires from Kianfu that the missionaries and converts are in great danger, and that assistance is urgently needed.

[The above telegram was received too late last evening for publication in our last issue.—Ed., H.K.T.]

[Reuter's.]

Morocco.

London, 26th September.

The French are fortifying round Cagablanca in the event of the chief Muley Raghid joining the rebels against General Druce.

Obituary.

The death of Colonel Donne is announced.

The "America" Cup.

The New York Yacht Club has declined Sir Thomas Lipton's challenge.

The Chinese on the Rand.

A riot has occurred owing to coolies under notice of repatriation refusing to make up time lost by unauthorized absence.

The police volleyed, wounding 15 coolies.

The Anglo-Russian Agreement.

The Anglo-Russian Agreement absorbs interest.

The papers expect that the Cabinet will consider a reduction of the force in India, though military opinion is opposed to it on the ground of the native unrest.

HONGKONG HOCKEY CLUB.

The report of the season 1906-7, to the members of the Hongkong Hockey Club, reads:—

The Committee have the pleasure to lay before you their report on the last season. The account shows a credit balance of \$17.33 on 30th September, 1907.

The Club played 17 matches, winning 8, losing 6, the remaining 3 being draws. The Challenge Cup, though it only attracted 6 entries, proved a great success, being won for the second year in succession by the 19th Infantry, who defeated the Middlesex Regiment in the final. The Club succumbed to the ultimate winners in the first round.

The Cup Fund shows a credit balance of \$52.25 on 30th September, 1907.

The Club enjoyed a visit from Canton representatives and won the encounter. Later the Club journeyed to Canton, playing two matches, both of which were won. The Committee takes this opportunity of thanking the Canton Sports Club for the generous hospitality displayed towards the Hongkong representatives during the visit.

The thanks of the Committee are due to Mr. T. M. Knott, for kindly auditing the accounts. During the season 14 new members were enrolled, but many have resigned or left the Colony, leaving 61 members on the list, which number the Committee hopes will be greatly augmented this coming season.

The annual general meeting, for the purpose of receiving the Committee's report on the season, and for electing the Committee and officers for the ensuing one, will be held in the Hongkong Cricket Club pavilion, by kind permission, on Tuesday, 1st October, at 5.15 p.m.

J. BARNETT, Chairman.
L. G. BIRD, Captain (absent).
H. J. O. BARNETT, (absent).
A. B. OOLE, R.E.
A. F. B. LIVESLY, R.N.

T. C. GRAY, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Two chair coolies in the employ of Dr. K. Just were charged at the Police Court, to-day, before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, with assault. Leung Ping Cheung, a watchman of Hotel Mansions, was the complainant. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge. Inspector Ritchie stated that complainant had orders to keep the entrance to Hotel Mansions clear of all the coolies. Yesterday afternoon he found the accused sitting at the entrance, blocking the doorway. He told them to move away, and the accused set upon him and assaulted him. The Inspector handed the Court a letter from Dr. Just, in which the latter asked for a severe penalty as "his chair coolies were an insolent lot." They were fined \$5 each, the alternative being fourteen days.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO. LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The twenty-fourth ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd., was held at noon, to-day, at the office of the general manager.

There were present: Mr. H. P. White (in the chair), Hon. Mr. Henry Keswick, Messrs. R. Shawan, A. G. Wood (directors), G. C. G. Maiter, J. M. Forbes, Dr. J. W. Noble, Mr. J. E. Gomes (secretary), Mr. Chan Tong and Mr. Chan Sul.

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen.—The report and accounts having been in your hands some time, I will, with your permission, take them as read. It is with a measure of gratification that we are able to come before you with a report showing a marked improvement in the year's working, in the face of the keen competition which we have to meet. During the period covered by the accounts, cargo has been plentiful; in fact, more than we could cope with, so that we frequently had to shut out cargo—which of necessity went to our competitors—and I can only emphasize the statement made by me at our last general meeting that had the services of the new steamer, which we proposed to have built some two years ago, been available the profits on the working of the steamers during the year would have been very considerably enhanced. The coast trade of China is increasing in volume and we have a valuable constituency whose confidence and whose business, it is absolutely necessary we should retain, but to do that we must have more tonnage than we have at present. The altered conditions of the coasting trade require steamers of larger capacity—which can be worked at very little more expense than our smallest boat, the *Huina*. I have therefore to inform you that we have decided with the full approval of your consulting committee to procure a good class steamer of larger carrying capacity than any of those at present comprising the company's fleet, which, while meeting our own special requirements will be available for other work when opportunity offers. Exchange is in favour of our purchasing at the present time and we are confident that such a boat will prove a profitable asset to the company; as all our experience goes to show that only with the most modern type of boat, of large capacity and a low ratio of working expenses, are good profits to be made on the China coast, while, on the other hand, we are equally satisfied that the day of small carriers is past. Reference was made at our last general meeting to the saving in insurance premia, and I am glad to be able to state that we have been able to make a still further reduction in this charge, while expenditure for coal will be less than that of last year. As regards prospects for the current year it is perhaps early to forecast, but the earnings for the first three months are fully up to those of the same period last year, and with a fair trade, and the lessened expenses above referred to, I am hopeful of a continuance of the improvement in the position of the company. With reference to the company's funds on mortgage, some of the mortgages have been paid off since the closing of the year's accounts, and the valuations of the company's surveyors show that the properties now held by the company form ample security for the advances made. Gentlemen, I do not know of anything further that I can add, but before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer, to the best of my ability, any questions that shareholders may wish to ask.

No questions were asked.

The Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Master seconded. In doing so, he said, he congratulated the general managers and all those who had anything to do in the matter. He took it that the company's agents up the coast had also something to do in the matter and he thought congratulations should go to them, too. Continuing, Mr. Master said: "This, I think, is the best report that has been presented to shareholders for some years. It was looking up the old reports for 1901, and this is a far better report in fact and including this year. With regard to the Chairman's remarks about purchasing a new vessel, of course, the general managers and the consulting committee know far more than do shareholders about steamers. I trust every effort will be made to procure a good economical boat that will pay her way. I shall like, in closing my remarks, to tender thanks to the Chairman. (Applause.)"

The Chairman thanked Mr. Master for his kind remarks, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Forbes proposed that the Hon. Mr. Keswick, Mr. K. S. W. and Mr. A. G. Wood be re-elected to the Consulting Committee.

Mr. Master seconded.

Dr. Noble proposed the re-election of Messrs. Potts and Lowe as auditors for the coming year.

Mr. Forbes seconded.

The Chairman:—That is all the business, gentlemen. I trust to give you as good, or even a better, report next year. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.

Accident on the "Glaucus."

COAL COOLIE FALLS INTO SHIP'S BUNKER.

An accident which occurred on board the steamer *Glaucus* yesterday afternoon, nearly ended in the death of an eighteen-year-old coal coolie, named Yeung Shing. At the time of the mishap the *Glaucus* was anchored off East Point, loading bunker coal. A gang of coolies was engaged in removing a quantity of coal from one bunker to another to provide room for the coal that was being taken in. Among that gang was Yeung Shing. According to eye-witnesses he was in the act of removing a load of coal from one bunker to another when he slipped on a plank and was precipitated into one of the bunkers—a drop of about sixteen feet—landing, fortunately, on his side. His friends picked him up and had him sent to the Alice Memorial Hospital, where, on examination, it was found that he had broken his forearm. The breaker he received about his face and body are not serious.

THE PORTUGUESE CONSUL.

"AT HOME."

To-day (September 28th) being the joint anniversary of their Most Faithful Majesties King Carlos and Queen Amalia, of Portugal, the Portuguese Consul, General Conselheiro A. G. Romano, Consul-General for Portugal, and Comendador J. J. Leiria, Vice-Consul, were "at home" at their residence, "Doat," Arbutnot Road, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., to receive visitors wishing to call in honour of the occasion.

Amongst the callers were Commander Grenfell, representing Commodore Stokes; Captain Bonham, representing General Broadwood; the entire Consular Body, Mr. H. Percy Smith, Bro. Sylvester, Mr. F. Silverstone, Mr. F. Hinton, Mr. Le and Mr. Chau Chi Hing, of the Macao Opium Farm and other members of the Portuguese community, as well as many foreigners. The guests were entertained very lavishly and the health of their Majesties drunk in bumper. The Machado String band was present and played a number of selections during the entertainment.

Subsequently congratulatory telegrams were despatched to H.E. the Governor of Macao, and to Conde de Arnoso, private secretary to the King of Portugal.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

WELCOME TO SIR CHENG TUNG LIANG CHENG.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 27th September.

The Canton-Hankow Railway Company have issued a circular to all the shareholders of the Company to assemble on the 15th day of the 8th moon (the 2nd proximo) at the office of the Company to extend a welcome to their newly-appointed president, Sir Chengtung Liang Cheng and to invite him to take over charge of office.

H.E. Viceroy Chang has formally announced to the officials of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company the sanction by the Throne of the recommendation of the appointment of Sir Chengtung Liang Cheng as president of the Company, by the shareholders and others, through the Ministry of Communications and Posts.

Official Visits.

To-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock, H.E. Viceroy Chang will receive the Canton Commissioner of Customs, Mr. P. H. King, and, at 11 o'clock will receive the German Consul at Canton.

Linkin Collections.

A report has been received at the Viceroy's yamen, from the weiyuan in charge of the Linkin station, at Linchow, to the effect that, owing to the unrest in the country, the collection of linkin dues since the sixth moon has fallen to almost infinitesimal amount. The local merchants have suspended business, thus causing stagnation in trade, which materially affects the collection of dues.

THE LATE CAPT. R. H. GRAINGER.

THE FUNERAL.

Wednesday, 26th September, 1907.

The funeral of the late Capt. Grainger took place yesterday evening at 5 p.m. Capt. Dixon, the courteous agent of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., had engaged a steam-launch to convey those attending the funeral, to the cemetery, and it speaks volumes for the popularity of the deceased when every foreigner in this port attended. H.M.S. *Rubin* was just steaming into port when she saw the funeral procession and as soon as the gunboat was anchored the captain and ship's officers adjourned to the cemetery. The Rev. Ande von, of the Wesleyan Church Mission, conducted the service, which was most impressive. Some beautiful wreaths were placed on the coffin, which was draped with an enormous Union Jack. The majority of the steamers, which were to have left for Hongkong and Canton, delayed their sailing to attend the funeral. The loss of Capt. Grainger is a sad blow to his many friends, who were most surprised at his sudden demise.

The late Capt. Grainger was so well known in Hongkong and elsewhere, that the greatest sympathy is extended to his relatives.

CHINESE RECRUITS' ERROR.

ORDERED TO HONAM AND CAME TO HONGKONG.

Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, in the Police Court, to-day, was told a story of how seven soldiers-to-be of the Chinese Imperial Army made a mistake yesterday in coming to Hongkong when they ought to have gone to Honam—a city opposite Canton. Three of the would-be "soldier men" found themselves in the dock this morning on a charge of obtaining a passage from Canton to Hongkong; on board the steamer *Ying King*, without paying their fares. The remainder, it was alleged, had not recovered from *mal de mer* when the vessel arrived in port to-day and had to be sent to hospital.

The three defendants—a sorrowful looking lot—pleaded guilty to the charge. They refused to say anything more, but the commodore of the *Ying King*, who acted as interpreter, explained matters to the Court, and intimated that he did not wish to press the case. The defendants, with four others, he said, who were in hospital, were found on board the ship last night. They had no money to pay their way across. When questioned on board, they stated that they were recruits for the Chinese army; that they were requested by an officer to board a cruiser lying off the bund, which would take them to the recruiting station at Honam, and that they had made a mistake and boarded the wrong vessel.

His Worship fined them \$1 each. (Their fees, it was stated, were paid by the commodore, and the seven men will be returned to Canton to-night.)

THE HONGKONG TRAGEDY.

A QUAKER STORY.

The *Manila Times* of 23rd instant, says:—Walter H. Adsett, alias Anderson, Jones, etc., who was extradited from the Philippines Saturday, is apparently not going to be convicted without some effort at defence. A short, heavy-set man, dressed in black, has made his appearance on the scene, presumably confined up out of Adsett's imagination. This is the man, Adsett says, whose hand throttled Gertrude Dayton in the Hongkong Hotel on that fatal night, or rather early morning of August 5. It is probable Adsett will have a very hard time convincing the Hongkong jury of the existence of this strange individual.

Just prior to the sailing of the *Rubi* on Saturday afternoon it was learned so far as would be divulged, who the alleged "other" parties were to whom W. H. Adsett referred in speaking of his trial for murder in Hongkong. When the suspected murderer of Gertrude Dayton discovered that no relief could be expected and that he was being returned to the scene of the crime, the Supreme Court having refused a writ of habeas corpus, he spoke freely to those around him of the defence he expected to make.

He alleged his own innocence of the crime of murder. He said in part that he and Gertrude Dayton had quarrelled at the Hongkong Hotel but that later they had made up and went out to spend the evening among acquaintances. He said they drank freely and returned at a very late hour. When they left the hotel they were approached by a short, heavy-set man dressed in black, who spoke to the Dayton woman, asking where was the money she had stolen. She talked to him a short time, requesting him, Adsett, to wait for her, left the man in a rage and soon joined him at the door. He said they returned at a very late hour and that when he awoke next morning he found the Dayton woman missing. He thought she had gone downstairs and paid no attention to her absence. Later he went downstairs and then, returning to the room, found the woman still missing. He said he had occasion to look into the trunk and to his surprise found the body of the woman, who, he said, must have been murdered while he was sleeping off his debauch of the night before. He admitted that he had the trunk and the body on his hands and thought the best thing to do was to get rid of them as best he could. When approached as to how he came into possession of the jewellery and the marked toilet articles of the murdered woman, he said, that she had given them to him to keep for her the day previous to the discovery of her body in the trunk. He said he believed the small man dressed in black had committed the crime while he, Adsett, slept.

"Who was the small man dressed in black?" he was asked. "I am not certain," he replied, "but I have my opinion and if it can be proved that the man whom I suspect was in Hongkong at the time, there may be something doing in the way of a sensation."

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write on the 27th inst:—

The market has been very inactive during the week under review, and few transactions have taken place.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks are quiet at \$55, for the old shares ex new issue, and \$50½, for the new shares. The London rate for the former has weakened to £77 10s, and the latter remains unchanged.

Marine Insurances.—Cantons are still neglected at \$2 5. North Chinas have sellers at 75s, and Vanguards at \$170. Unions are weaker at \$76.

Fire Insurances.—China Fires have not fluctuated, and are quiet at \$86. Hongkong Fires are steady at \$170.

Shipping.—Douglases have improved to \$4, and Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats to \$38. Shell Transports are out of favour at 44s. There are buyers of Star Ferries old and new at \$20 and \$10, respectively.

Refineries.—China Sugars are unchanged and without business at \$98. Perak Sugars can at 11 be had at 75s.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings have risen to 17s. 10s in the North, and buyers prevail at the rate. Rabus have inquiries at 18s.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Kowloon Wharves are obtainable at \$67. Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have weakened to \$50, at which rate there are buyers. In the North, Shanghai Docks are unaltered, while Hongkong Wharves can be secured at the reduced rate of 75s.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels are again in favour and have strengthened to \$100. Hongkong Lands appreciated to \$96. Sales of West Points have been effected at \$18. Shanghai Lands are easier and are offering in the North at 10s.

Cotton Mills.—A weaker tone prevails in Ewos which have declined to 75s, with sellers. There is no business to record in stocks under this heading and rates for other Northern mills are unchanged.

Miscellaneous.—China Borneos have advanced to 70½ at which rate shares are wanted. China Light and Powers are in request at 16, but none are obtainable at the rate. Dairy Farms have been sold and are wanted at \$14. Hongkong Electric are inquired for at \$14. Peak Tramways have inquiries at \$12 for the old shares. The new shares (\$1 paid up) are a shade firmer at \$100. Watsons are wanted at quotation. Langkats have experienced a sharp decline, but at close there are buyers at 75s. 330. Samatras have strengthened, and are in request at 11s.

Its historic *Don Encarnacion*, which was to have been towed to Hongkong by the *Loonyang* on Saturday, was not given clearance by the Manila customs authorities as her pilot was claimed to be intoxicated. The *Don Encarnacion* will be required immediately and towed to Hongkong to be broken up at this port.

Today's Advertisements.

CHINESE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT 7 PER CENT SILVER LOAN OF 1886, E.

42ND HALF-YEARLY DRAWING.

INTEREST DUE AND DRAWN BOND of this LOAN will be PAYABLE at the Offices of the CORPORATION on and after the 30th September, 1907.

LIST OF DRAWN BONDS can be obtained on application to the Undersigned.

For the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, Agents issuing the Loan.

J. R. M. SMITH, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1907. [872]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions from The Official Administrator, to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION, For account of the Estate of the late Captain E. H. GRAINGER,

ON

TUESDAY,

the 1st October, 1907, at Noon, at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

THE GOODS AND CHATELAIN of the above-named deceased.

TERMS.—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Government Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1907. [873]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,

ON

WEDNESDAY,

the 2nd October, 1907, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

SUNDRY VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

Comprising:—

DOUBLE and SINGLE IRON BED-STEADS and MATTRESSES, TEAK-WOOD WARDROBES with BEVELLED GLASS, OVERMANTELS with BEVELLED GLASS, SIDEBOARD and DINNER WAGGONS with BEVELLED GLASS, MARBLE-TOP WASHSTANDS, DOUBLE TEAKWOOD WARDROBE with BEVELLED GLASS, TAPESTRY COVERED DRAWING ROOM SUITE, GLASS, CROCKERY and E.P. WARE, CARPET, COOKING STOVE and UTENSILS, &c.

ALSO

One GRAMOPHONE and RECORDS, (in good order and condition.)

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS.—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1907. [874]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,

ON

SATURDAY,

the 5th October, 1907, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF JAPANESE CURIOS.

Comprising:—

CARVED BRASS BOWLS, VASES, INCENSE BURNERS, JAPANESE TEMPLE TORIJE, OLD BRONZE VASES, GONGS, IVORY CARVINGS, GOLD and SILVER CLOISONNE WARE, IMARI and MAKUDZU VASES, SILK-EMBROIDERED SCREENS, &c., &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS.—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1907. [875]

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER RESERVE ASSOCIATION.

The following were the highest scores made in the Governor's and Chater Cup competition during the month of August:—

A. Jenkins	67 scr.	— 67
J. H. Pidgeon	64 scr.	— 64
A. Mair	60 + 3	— 63
G. Gibbon	50 + 11	— 61
D. Willis	48 + 12	— 60
F. S. Carruthers	55 + 2	— 57
A. Mackenzie	53 + 4	— 57
R. Baker	53 + 4	— 57
Dr. Evan Jones	47 + 6	— 53
E. W. Terrey	41 + 10	— 51
Dr. J. M. Atkinson	34 + 10	— 44

(There were 30 entries.)

The highest scores made in the Berkeley Cup competition were:—

A. Jenkins	59 scr.	— 59
R. Baker	51 + 4	— 55
A. Blagway	48 + 6	— 54

(There were 31 entries.)

In the Medhurst Cup competition, at disappearing targets, the only scores were:—

J. C. Peter	3 hits.
E. W. Terrey	1 hit.

L. G. Bird.

The Pool competitions were won by the following members:—

17th & 18th August W. L. Leask	55 + 10	— 65
24th & 25th	A. Jenkins	59 scr.

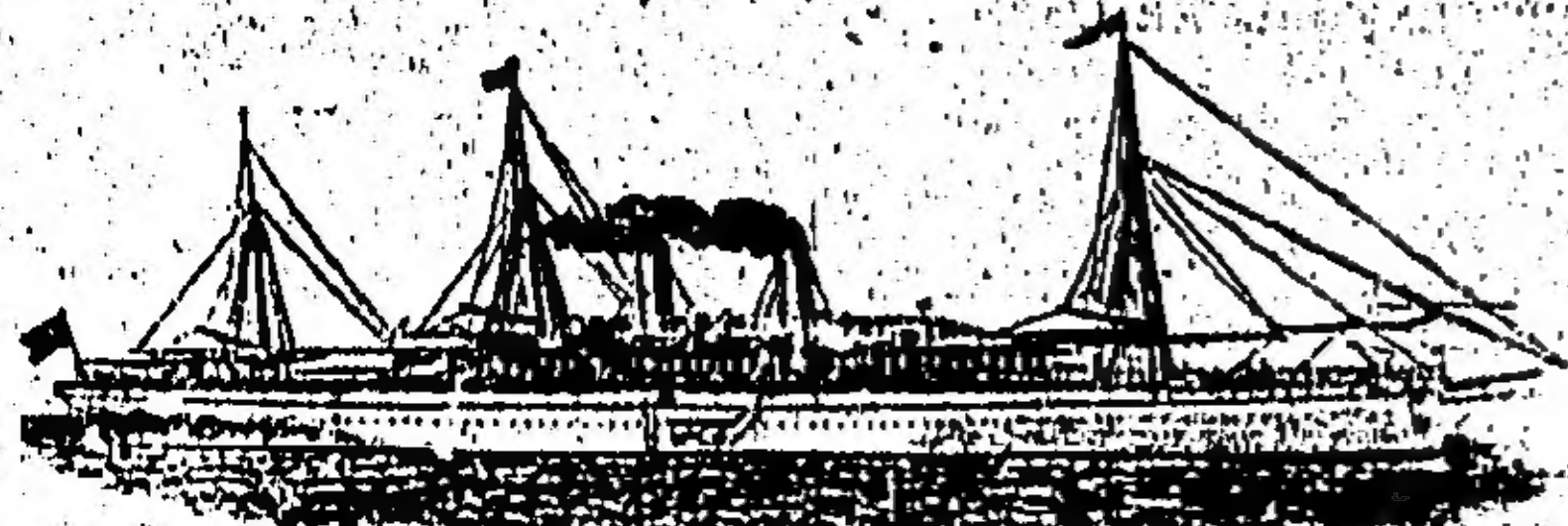
Bad weather very much interfered with shooting during August, and attendances ranged very small, but it is hoped that members will make an effort to keep up the average during the next few months. Those who have not put in the proper average number of attendances are reminded of the remarks made by his Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan at the last general meeting regarding this matter.

Intimations.

THE ROBINSON PIANO CO., LD.

INVITE INSPECTION OF THEIR

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY'S
ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that maintains a Regular Schedule Service of under Eleven Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 5 to 10 Days' Ocean Travel.

11 Days YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER. 18 Days HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER.

PROPOSED SAILINGS. (Subject to Alteration).

R.M.S.	Tons	Leave Hongkong	Arrive Vancouver
"EMPEROR OF INDIA"	6,000	THURSDAY, Oct. 24th	Nov. 11th
"EMPEROR OF JAPAN"	6,000	THURSDAY, Nov. 1st	Nov. 18th
"EMPEROR OF CHINA"	6,000	THURSDAY, Dec. 10th	Dec. 27th
"EMPEROR OF INDIA"	6,000	THURSDAY, Jan. 10th	Jan. 27th

"EMPEROR" steamers will depart from Hongkong at 4 P.M. Intermediate steamers at 12 Noon.

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES AND EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, and VICTORIA, B.C., and at QUEBEC, with the Company's New Palatial "EMPEROR" Steamships, 14,500 tons register. The through transit to LIVERPOOL being 22 days, from YOKOHAMA, and 29 days from HONGKONG.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class, via St. Lawrence River Lines or New York, 471 to Hongkong to London, Intermediate on Steamers, and 1st Class on Railways, via St. Lawrence, 440. Via New York 442. First-class rates include cost of Meals and Berth in Sleeping Car while crossing the American Continent.

R.M.S. "EMPEROR" carries "Intermediate" Passengers only, at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class.

Passengers Booked through to all points and AROUND THE WORLD.

SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to D. W. CRADDOCK, General Traffic Agent for China, Corner Pedder Street and Praya.

Hongkong, 26th September, 1907.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

For	Steamship	On
For SHANGHAI & CHEFOO, CHIPSHING	"SUNDAY"	19th Sept., daylight
SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA, LAISANG	"TUESDAY"	1st Oct., 3 P.M.
SANDAKAN	"MAUSANG"	TUESDAY, 1st Oct., 3 P.M.
MANILA	"YUSANG"	FRIDAY, 4th Oct., 4 P.M.

REDUCED FARES TO STRAITS & CALCUTTA.

	Single.	Return.
Hongkong to Singapore 1st Class	85	150
Penang	85	150
Calcutta	165	350

These Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Chefoo, Tientsin, Newchwang and Yangtze Ports.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Kudat, Lahad, Datu, Simporna, Tawao, Uaukoo, Jesselton and Labuan.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LD.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1907.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

FOR	STEAMSHIP	TO SAIL
PAKHAI & HAIPHONG	"SINGAN"	29th Sept., daylight
AMOI & SHANGHAI	"KWA YONG"	29th "
SWATOW, WEIHAWEI, CHEFOO & TIENTSIN	"HOIOW"	29th "
MANILA	"TRAN"	1st Oct., 4 P.M.
HOIOW & HAIPHONG	"CHIEH"	2nd "
CHEFOO & NEWCHANG	"NANOHANG"	3rd "
SWATOW & SHANGHAI	"KUIKIANG"	3rd "
SWATOW & SHANGHAI	"HUMA"	5th "
OEBO & ILOILO	"SUNGKIANG"	10th "
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA & COLONIE	"CHANGSHA"	10th "
YOKOHAMA & KOBE	"CHINGTU"	10th "
SWATOW & SHANGHAI	"SHANGHAI"	11th "
SWATOW & SHANGHAI	"YOHU"	15th "

The Attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by these steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled table. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

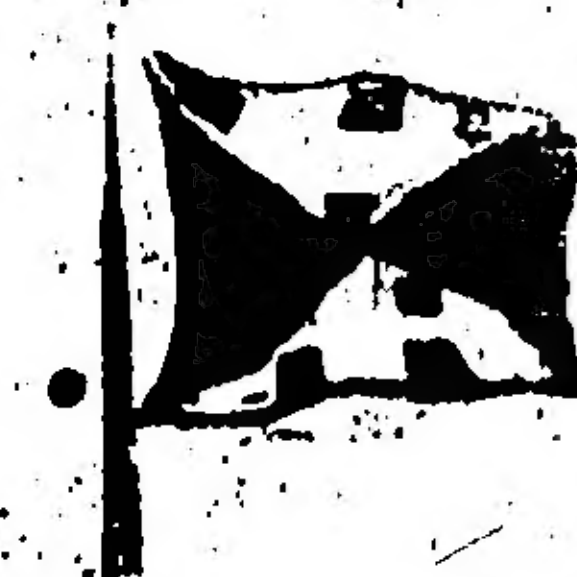
Taking Cargo and Passengers at through Rates for all New Zealand and other Australian Ports.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1907.



HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewardess carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA
STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

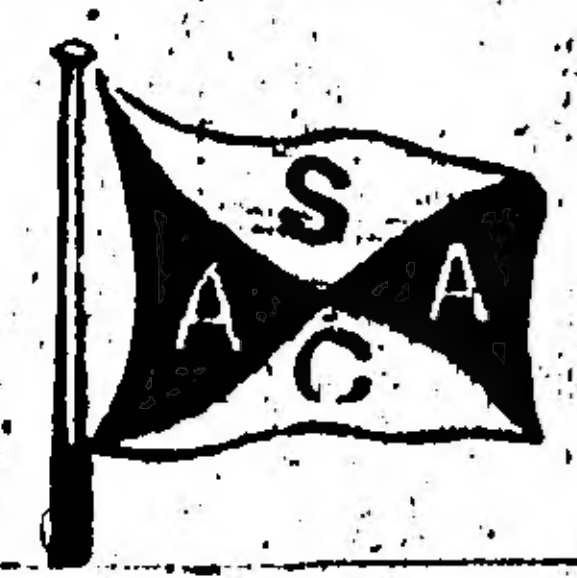
Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
ZAFIRO	2540	Fraser	MANILA	SATURDAY, 5th Oct., 1907.
ROBI	2540	Almond	"	SATURDAY, 12th Oct., 1907.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1907.



HONGKONG—NEW YORK.

AMERICAN ASIATIC
STEAMSHIP CO.

FOR NEW YORK via PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.

(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast).

Steamship	To sail
"OCEAN MONARCH"	On the 2nd November, 1907.

For Freight and further information, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, 23th September, 1907.

Shipping—Steamers.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.



159 Ocean Steamers

with

912,000

Br. Reg. Tons.

PASSENGER SERVICE.

RHENANIA—HABSBURG—HOHENSTAUFEN—SILESIA—SCANDIA.

HIGHEST COMFORT, ONLY
LOWER BERTHS.

Laundry on board, Doctor, Stewardesses carried.

Ports of call: NAPLES, PLYMOUTH, HAVRE, HAMBURG.
NEXT SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Outward.

HOHENSTAUFEN ... 1st Oct.

SILESIA ... 2nd Nov.

Hongkong, 26th September, 1907.

Homeward.

RHENANIA ... 2nd Oct.

HOHENSTAUFEN ... 30th Oct.

SILESIA ... 11th Dec.

FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND MOJI.

THE Steamship

"ARRATON APCAR,"
Captain A. Stewart, will be despatched for the above Ports, on TUESDAY, the 1st proximo, at daylight.

This Steamer has Superior Accommodation for Passengers, and is installed throughout with Electric Light and carries a duly certified Doctor.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED,
Agents.
Hongkong, 24th September, 1907.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE
TO NEW YORK.

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL,
(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR NEW YORK.

S.S. "SIKH" ... 5th Oct.

FOR BOSTON AND NEW YORK.

S.S. "MUNCASTER CASTLE" ... 26th Oct.

This steamer has excellent Saloon Accommodation for First-class Passengers at moderate rates.

For Freight and further information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,

Agents.

Hongkong, 27th September 1907.

NORTHERN PACIFIC LINE.

BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Connecting at Tacoma with
NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY
COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR

VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA,

VIA

MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamer	Tons.	Captain.	Sailing.
Suvarik	6,235	W. Sketton	15th Oct.
Kumerik	6,232	D. Baird	25th Oct.
Shawmut	9,666	E. V. Roberts	6th Nov.

* Cargo only.

CHEAP FARES, EXCELLENT ACCOMMODATION, ATTENDANCE AND CUISINE, ELECTRIC LIGHT, DOCTOR AND STEWARDESSES.

The twin-screw s.s. Shawmut and Trenton are fitted with very superior accommodation for first and second class passengers. The large size of these vessels ensures steadiness at sea. Electric fan in each room. Barber's shop and steam-laundry. Cargo carried in cold storage.

PARCEL EXPRESS TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

For further information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,

General Agents.

Hongkong, 20th September, 1907.

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

"KWONG TUNG" ... Capt. H. W. WALKER.

"KWONG SAI" ... Capt. E. S. CROWE.

Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every evening, (Saturday excepted).

Leave Canton for Hongkong at 5.30 every evening, (Sunday excepted).

These Fine New Steamers have unexcelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and are fitted throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans in First Class Cabins.

Passage Fare—Single Journey ... \$4.

Meals ... \$1.25 each

The Company's Wharf is situated in front of the New Western Market, opposite the old Harbour Office.

YUEN ON S.S. CO., LD.,

and

SHIU ON S.S. CO., LD.,

No. 2, Queen's Road West.

Hongkong, 24th July, 1907.

HONGKONG AVERAGE MARKET PRICES.

Corrected 27th September, 1907. per 5 Mts.

BUTCHER MEAT.

	Cents.
Beef—Prime cut—Mei Lung Pa B	20
"Comed—Ham Ngau Yuk	20
"Roast—Shiu	20
"Breast—Ngau Lam	15
"Soup, Tong Yuk	15
"Steak—Ngau Yuk Pa	20
"Sirloin—Ngau Lau	20
"Sausages—Ngau Yuk Chung	30
Bullock's Brains—Know	10
"Tongue fresh—Ngau Li	50
"Comed—Ham Ngau Li	50
"Head—Ngau Tau	80
"Heart—Ngau Sum	12
"Hump, Salt—Ngau Kin	10
"Feet—Ngau Keok	7
"Kidneys—Ngau Yiu	10
"Tail—Ngau Mei	10
"Liver—Ngau Con	12
"Tripe (undressed)—Ngau To	7
Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau-chai-tau-keok	1.00
Mutton Chop—Yeung Pai Kwai	24
"Leg—Yeung Pei	24
"Shoulder—Yeung Shau	20
Pigs' Chittlings—Chi cheong	25
"Brains—Chi Know	12
"Feet—Chi Keok	12
"Fry—Chi Chak	12
"Head—Chi Tai	12
"Heart—Chi Sum	19
"Kidneys—Chi Yiu	8
"Liver—Chi Kon	10
Pork Chop—Chi Pai Kwai	24
"Comed—Ham Chu Yuk	24
"Leg—Chu Pei	24
"Fat or Lard—Chu Yau	24
Sheep's Head and Feet—Yeung Tau	63
"Keok	6
"Heart—Yeung Sum	10
"Kidneys—Yeung Yiu	10
"Liver—Yeung Con	24
Sucking Pigs, To Order—Chu Chai	16
Suet, Beef—Sang Ngau Yau	16
"Mutton—Sang Yeung Yau	24
Veal—Ngau Chai Yuk	24
"Sausages—Ngau Chai Yuk Tong	20

POULTRY.

	Cents.
Chicken—Kai Chai	28
Capon, Large, Small—Sin Kai	30
Ducks—Ap	20
Doves—Pan Kau	15
Eggs, Hen—Kai Tan	12
Fowls, Canton—Kai	22
"Hainan—Hoi Nam Kai	25
Geese—Ngo	26
Geese, Wild Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Ye	26
"Ngo	26
Musk Deer—Wong Keng	each
Hare—Tu Chai	each
Partridge—Che Khoo	each
Pheasant—Shan Kai	each
Pigeons, Canton—Pak Kup	each
"Hoihow—Hoihow Pak Kup	each
Quail—Um Chub	each
Rice Birds—Wo Fa Cheuk	each
Snipe—Sa Chai	each
Turkeys, Cook—Fo Kai Kung	each
"Hen	each
Wild Ducks, Shanghai, Sui-ap	each
Teal, Shanghai, Sui Ap Chai	each
Wild Ducks Canton—Sang Shing Sui	each
"Ap	each

FISH.

	Cents.
Barbel—Ka Yu	13
Bream—Bin Yu	14
Canton Fresh Water Fish—Hoi Sin Yu	15
Carp—Li Yu	18
Catfish—Chik Yu	11
Codfish—Mun Yu	11
Crabs—Hoi Yu	11
Cuttle Fish—Mak Yu	11
Dab—Sa Mang Yu	11
Dace—Wong Mei Lun	12
Dog Fish—Tui Yu	9
Eels, Conger—Hoi Man Yu	15
"Fresh water—Tan Sui Yu	15
"Yellow—Wong Sin	24
Frogs—Tien Kai	24
Grouper—Sek Pan	15
Gudgeon—Pak Kip Yu	15
Herrings—Tao Pak	22
Halibut—Cheung Kwai Yu	22
Labrus—Wong Fa Yu	22
Loach—Wu Yu	22
Lobsters—Lung Ha	31
Mackerel—Chiu Yu	13
Monk Fish—Moi Yu	13
Mullet—Chai Yu	24
Oysters—Sang Hoo	24
Parrotfish—Kai Kung Yu	16
Perch—Tau Loo	19
Pike—Fa Pau Pong Yu	19
Plaice—Pan Yu	18
Pomfret, Black—Hak Cheung	38
Pomfret, White—Pak Cheung	38
Prawns—Ming Ha	38
Ray—Pai Pa Yu	9
Rock Fish—Sek Kau Kung	9
Roach—Chun Yu	28
Salmon, (O'Connell), fresh water—Ma Yau	28

	Cents.
Shark—Sa Yu	9
Snake—Po Yu	10
Shrimps—Ha	24
Snapper—Lap Yu	24
Soles—Tat Sa Yu	25
Tench—Wan Yu	18
Turbot—Choi Hoi Yu	23
Turtles, small, fresh water—Kok Yu	50
White Bait—Ngau Yu Chai	50

FRUITS.

	Cents.
Almond—Hung Yau	20
Apples, (California)—Kam San Ping	20
"Ko	20
(Chefoo)—Tia Chun Ping	10
"Ko	10
Small—Hoi Tong	6
Custard—Fan Lai Chi	6
Bananas, fragrant, Canton—Sang Sheng	3
Heung Chiu	3
(brides), Macao—San Heung Chiu	3
Chestnuts, Chinese—Fong Lut	16
Carambola—Yeung Tou	16
Cocoanuts—Yeh Tai	10
Grapes—Sin Tai Tsai	10
Lemons, China—Ning Moong	5
"Amer—Kum San Ning Moong	5
Lichees, Small Stone—Lai Chi Con	25
Fresh, Lai Chi	—
Limes, (Saigon)—Sai Kung Ning	—
Moong	—
Mango, Manila—Lui Sung Moong	—
Mango, Saigon—Sai Kung Moong	—
Mangosteens, San Chuk Tai	—
Oranges, (American)—Kam San Tim	—
Chang	—
Small—Tai Kut	—
Mandarin—Tim Kut	—
Olives—Pak Lam	—
Passion Fruit	—
Pears, (American)—Kam San Shui Li	—
(Canton), Cooking—Sa Li	—
(Shanghai)—Sheung Hoi Li	—
Peanuts—Fa Sang	—
Persimmons, Large—Hung Chai	—
Pine-apples, 1st quality—Sheung Poon	—
Ti Pau-law	—
and cooking—Chung-tang	—
Paw-law	—
Platane—Tai Chai	—
Plums, Swatow—Hung Lai	—
Pumelo, Siam—Chim Lo Yau	—
Walnuts, Hop Tou	—
Green—Sang Hop Tou	—
Shanghai Lo Kwai	—

VEGETABLES, &c.

Artichokes, Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Ah Chi Chank	—
Beans, (French) Macao—Oh Moon Pin Tau	—
Beans, (French), Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Pis Tau	12
Beans, Sprout—Ah Choi	4
Beans, Long—Tau Kok	6
Beet Root—Hung Chai Tai	2
Brijals, Green—Cheng Yuen Ker	2
Brijals, Red—Hung Ker	2
Brassica—Pak Choi	4
Bamboo Shoots—Chook Shun	2
Cabbage, Chinese, con.—Kai Choy	2
Cabbage Root—Kai Lan Tau	2
Cabbage, (Shanghai)—Yeh Choi	10
Cane Shoots, bunch—Kau Shun	3
Cauliflower, Large size—Tai Yeh Choi Fa	—
Cauliflower, Medium size—Cheung Yeh Choi-fa	—
Cauliflower, Small size—Sai Yeh Choi-fa	—
Carrots—Kam Shun	7
Celery, Chinese—Toog Kan Choy	10
Celery, English—Yeung Kan Choi	—
Celery, White—Pak Yeung Kan Choi	—
Chillies, Dried—Con Lat Chiu	8
" Red—Hung Fa	8
" Green—Cheng Lat Chiu	8
Curry Stuff, English—Ka Lee Choi Liu	—
Cucumbers—Cheng Kwa	1
Ritter Squash—Fu Kwa	—
Garlic—Suen Tau	—
Ginger, young—Sun Tai Keung	8
" old—Lo Keung	8
Horse Radish, Shanghai—Lik Kan	30
Indian Corn—Suk Mai	4
Lettuce—Yeung Sang Choi	4
Water Chestnuts—Ma Tai	8
" Mandarin—Kwei Lum Ma Tai	8
Musk Melon	—
Mushrooms, Fresh—Sang Cho Kho	4
Onions, Bombay—Yeung Chung Tau	4
" Green—Sang Chung	—
" Shai—Sheung Hoi Chung Tan Japan—Yat Poon	—
Okros—Mo Ker	—
Papery, English—Yeung Un Sai	\$100
Gratus Pea	—
Green Peas—Cheng Tau	—
Potatoes, Sweet—Fan Shu	—
" Shanghai—Sheung Hui Shu Tai	3
" Japan—Yat Poon Shu Tsai	3
" American—Fa Ki	—
" Foochow—Fuk Chau Shu Tai	3
" Macao—Oh Moon	—
Pumpkin—Toong Kwa	3
Radish—Hung Lo Pak Tsai	10
Rhubarb	—
Shalots—Con Chung Tan	7
Spinage (Chinese)—Paw Choi	4
Spinach—Yin Choi	4
Tomatoes—Fan Ker	4
Taro—Wu Tau	—
Turnips, Fun-ti (Long)—Low Pak	—
" English—Yeung Low Pak	—
Vegetable Marrow—Chit Kwa	—
Water Cress—Lai Yeung Choi	15
" Calippo—Lan Koh	—
" Lily Root—Liu Nian	5
Yams—Tai Shu	2
Sage	—
C. W. BARR, Inspector.	
The prices necessarily vary from day to day, and the Sanitary Board has no power to compel retailers to sell at the prices quoted.	
G. A. WOODCOCK, Secretary, Sanitary Board.	

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOBRE & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT.	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION, BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation (new) Do.	80,000 40,000	\$125 \$125	\$125 \$125	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$1,797,167 \$1,797,167	\$1.15/- for 4-year ending 30.6.07 @ ex 1/2 3/16 - \$16.04	5 %	\$545 ex new is. 3.02 1/2 new issue London 277.10/- ex new issue London 260.10/- issue first call \$51
National Bank of China, Limited	90,000	£7	£6	\$1,715,000 \$1,715,000	\$71,235 \$71,235	\$2 (London 3/6) for 1903	7 1/2 %	\$270
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$150	\$50	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$233,658 \$233,658	\$20 for 1905	7 1/2 %	\$270
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	Tls. 100,000 Tls. 100,000	Tls. 185,520 Tls. 185,520	Interim of 7/6 for account 1906 @ ex 2/10 11/16 per cent	6 %	Tls. 75 sellers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	2,400	\$250	\$100	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$400,400 \$400,400	Final of \$12 making \$42 for 1905 and Interim of \$37 for 1906	5 1/2 %	\$760
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	8,000	\$100	\$60	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$461,467 \$461,467	\$1 for year ending 31.12.05	7 %	\$170 sellers
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$10	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$362,980 \$362,980	\$1 and bonus \$2 for 1905	9 1/2 %	\$86
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$435,350 \$435,350	\$40 for 1905	13 %	\$310
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	10,000	\$25	\$21	\$7,000 \$7,000	\$365 \$365	\$1 for 1906	6 1/2 %	\$15 buyers
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$200,000 \$200,000	Nil. Nil.	\$2 1/2 for year ending 30.6.1906	6 %	\$42
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$127,101 \$127,101	\$1 for 1st half-year ending 30.6.07	7 1/2 %	\$28
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Deferred) Do.	6,000 6,000	£5 £5	£5 £5	\$60,000 \$60,000	\$3,694 \$3,694	\$1 for 1906 @ ex 2/28 - \$2.74 per share	3 1/2 %	\$41 \$29
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 54,372 Tls. 54,372	Tls. 13,327 Tls. 13,327	Interim of Tls. 14 for account 1907	11 1/2 %	Tls. 472 sellers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	1,000,000	£1	£1	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$172,370 \$172,370	Interim of 1/- (Coupon No. 8 for a/c 1907)	4 1/2 %	Tls. 481 buyers
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	\$10,000 \$10,000	\$137 \$137	\$1.00 for year ending 30.4.1907	5 %	\$20 buyers \$10 buyers
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	10,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 81,200 Tls. 81,200	18,730 18,730	Final of Tls. 2 making Tls. 6 for 1906	12 1/2 %	Tls. 48 sales
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$100	\$450,000 \$450,000	\$9,218 \$9,218	\$8 for year ending 31.12.06	8 1/2 %	\$98
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	2,000	\$100	\$100	\$200,000 \$200,000	Tls. 8,935 Tls. 8,935	\$3 for 1897	4 1/2 %	\$21
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000 Tls. 100,000	Nil. Nil.	Tls. 4 (8 1/2) for year ending 31.8.06	4 1/2 %	Tls. 50 sellers
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	100,000	£1	£1	\$110,000 \$110,000	\$12,546 \$12,546	Interim of 1/6 for a/c year ending 28.2.07	4 %	Tls. 15.80 b.
Raub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	50,000 50,000	£1 £1	18/10 £1	\$48,973 \$48,973	\$11,358 \$11,358	No. 12 of 1/- = 48 cents	...	\$81 buyers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	\$45,124 \$45,124	\$10,335 \$10,335	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06	10 1/2 %	\$17
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$500,000 \$500,000	\$3,047 \$3,047	Interim of \$2 for six months ending June 30th 1907	6 %	\$67 1/2
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$500,000 \$500,000	\$491,580 \$491,580	\$4 for 1st half-year ending June 30th, 1907	8 %	\$100 buyers
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	57,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 5,770,000 Tls. 5,770,000	Tls. 10,459 Tls. 10,459	Tls. 3 for year ending 30th April 1907	4 %	Tls. 28
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 3,600,000 Tls. 3,600,000	Tls. 23,117 Tls. 23,117	Interim of Tls. 8 for account 1907	8 %	Tls. 274 sellers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 2,500,000 Tls. 2,500,000	Tls. 3,388 Tls. 3,388	Tls. 6 for 14 months ending 28.2.07	6 %	Tls. 103
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	10,000	\$25	\$25	\$250,000 \$250,000	\$10,908 \$10,908	\$2 1/2 for year ending 30.6.07	9 1/2 %	\$23 buyers
Central Stores, Limited	50,723	\$15	\$15	\$760,845 \$760,845	\$9,178 \$9,178	\$1.80 for 1906	12 1/2 %	\$141
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	10,000	\$50	\$50	\$500,000 \$500,000	\$10,925 \$10,925	\$4 for 1st half-year ending 30.6.07	10 %	\$100
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	\$5,000,000 \$5,000,000	\$56,218 \$56,218	Interim of \$3 1/2 for half year ending 30.6.07	7 1/2 %	\$96
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	100,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$11,567 \$11,567	80 cents for 1906	7 1/2 %	\$101
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	\$300,000 \$300,000	\$1,089 \$1,089	\$2 1/2 for 1906	7 %	\$36
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 3,900,000 Tls. 3,900,000	Tls. 61,978 Tls. 61,978	Interim of Tls. 3 for account 1907	7 1/2 %	Tls. 101 sellers
West Point Building Company, Limited	17,500	\$50	\$50	\$875,000 \$875,000	\$1,578 \$1,578	Interim of \$2 for half year ending June 30th	8 1/2 %	\$48
COTTON MILLS.								
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 750,000 Tls. 750,000	Tls. 64,986 Tls. 64,986	Tls. 10 for year ended 31.10.1906	15 1/2 %	Tls. 63 sellers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	175,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,750,000 \$1,750,000	\$14,269 \$14,269	50 cents for year ending 31.7.07	4 1/2 %	\$101
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 750,000 Tls. 750,000	Tls. 36,211 Tls. 36,211	Tls. 6 for year ending 30.9.06 (8 1/2)	11 1/2 %	Tls. 53
Lao-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 800,000 Tls. 800,000	Tls. 31,469 Tls. 31,469	Tls. 8 for 1906	8 1/2 %	Tls. 90 sellers
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	1,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 500,000 Tls. 500,000	Tls. 50,663 Tls. 50,663	Tls. 50 for 1906	17 1/2 %	Tls. 290 sellers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	\$1,299 \$1,299	\$638 \$638	1 1/2 per share for 1906	9 %	\$61
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1,200	\$10	\$10	\$12,000 \$12,000	\$653 \$653	\$3 for 1905	...	\$20 sellers
China-Borneo Company, Limited	10,000	\$12	\$12	\$120,000 \$120,000	Nil. Nil.	\$1 for 1904	...	\$91 buyers
China Flour Mills Co., Limited	4,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 200,000 Tls. 200,000	Tls. 289 Tls. 289	Final of Tls. 5 making Tls. 10 for 1905	...	Tls. 58 sellers
China Light and Power Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	\$100,000 \$100,000	\$25,000 \$25,000	\$60 cents for year ended 28.2.06	...	6 buyers
China Loan and Mortgage Company, Ltd.	100,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000 \$1,000,000	\$185 \$185	80 cents for 1906	9 %	\$9
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	\$21	\$21	\$525,000 \$525,000	\$12,555 \$12,555	\$1.50 for year ending 31.7.1906	7 1/2 %	\$18
Greep Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	\$4,000,000 \$4,000,000	\$10,804 \$10,804	Interim of 50 cents per share for a/c 1907	9 %	\$11
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	\$420,000 \$420,000	\$15,002 \$15,002	\$2 1/2 for year ending 28.2.07	11 1/2 %	\$10 sales
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$600,000 \$600,000	\$12,953 \$12,953	\$1 per share for year ending 28.2.07	7 1/2 %	\$14 buyers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	\$125,000 \$125,000	\$4,361 \$4,361	Interim of \$4 for 1-year ending June 30th 07	9 1/2 %	\$240
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000 \$500,000	\$14,212 \$14,212	Interim of 80 cents per share for a/c 1907	8 %	\$25 buyers
Maatschappij tot Exploitatie van Landbouw-erf in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	Tls. 547,500 Tls. 547,500	Tls. 10,374 Tls. 10,374	Third interim of Tls. 7 1/2 making Tls. 22 1/2 for a/c 1907	9 %	Tls. 330 buyers
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	\$250,000 \$250,000	\$2,655 \$2,655	\$1 per share for period from 19th Oct. to 30th Apr. 07	8 1/2 %	\$12 buyers
Philippine Company, Limited	67,500	\$10	\$10	\$675,000 \$675,000	Dr. P. 34,374 Dr. P. 34,374	None	...	\$5 buyers
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	24,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 1,200,000 Tls. 1,200,000	Tls. 7,990 Tls. 7,990	Interim of Tls. 3 1/2 for account 1907	7 1/2 %	Tls. 107
Shanghai Hopie Bazaar Co., Ltd.	5,400	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 270,000 Tls. 270,000	Tls. 9,751 Tls. 9,751	Tls. 4 for 1905	...	Tls. 32 buyers
Shanghai Pulp and Paper Company, Limited	4,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 450,000 Tls. 450,000	Tls. 3,354 Tls. 3,354	Final of Tls. 5 and Tls. 10 for 1906	...	Tls. 66 buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 600,000 Tls. 600,000	Tls. 7,843 Tls. 7,843	Interim of Tls. 5 for a/c 1907	8 1/2 %	Tls. 116 buyers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	8,175	£20	£20	\$163,500 \$163,500	Tls. 85,592 Tls. 85,592	Interim of 1 1/2 for account 1907	...	Tls. 110 buyers
South China Morning Post, Limited	7,200	£20	£20	\$144,000 \$144,000	Nil. Nil.	Interim of 1 1/2 for account 1907	...	Tls. 280 buyers
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$5	\$5	\$100,000 \$100,000	\$4,728 \$4,728	None	6 1/2 %	\$6
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 200,000 Tls. 200,000	Tls. 201 Tls. 201	40 cents for year ending 31.5.07	...	Tls. 97
Union Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$500,000 \$500,000	\$349 \$349	First year.	...	\$12
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$4	\$35,000 \$35,000	\$1,365 \$1,365	80 cents on 9,000 ord. shares and 19.8 on 100 Founders shares for year ending 31.5.07	8 %	\$10
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	\$10	\$10	\$900,000 \$900,000	\$5,482 \$5,482	Final of 40 cents per share making 80 cents for year ending 31.12.07	7 1/2 %	\$11 sellers
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	\$150,000 \$150,000	\$182 \$182	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1905	10 %	\$8

* These shares are entitled to half of the profits.

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THE Steamship

"DELTA," Captain C. L. Daniel, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY, &c., on SATURDAY, the 30th October, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports, in connection with the Company's S.S. Victoria, 6,500 tons, from Colombo, Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London, other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed from Bombay by the R.M.S. Persia due in London on 16th November, 1907.

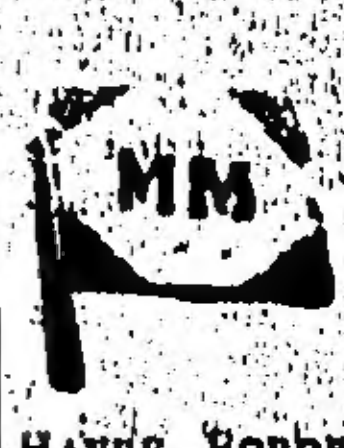
Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

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E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 21st September, 1907.

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The S.S. "AUSTRALIAN," Captain Verron, will be despatched for MARSAILLES on TUESDAY, the 2nd October, at 1 P.M.

Passage tickets and through Bills of Lading issued for above ports, and for Australia with prompt transhipment at Colombo.

Cargo also booked for principal places in Europe.

Next sailings will be as follows:

S.S. VERA, 11th Oct.

S.S. YARRA, 15th Oct.

S.S. BERNARD SIMONS, 18th Oct.

S.S. TONKIN, 21st Nov.

S.S. POLYNESIAN, 10th Dec.

S.S. TOURANE, 24th Dec.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.

Hongkong, 18th September, 1907.

(10)

THE AMERICAN AND ORIENTAL LINE

FOR NEW YORK.

(With liberty to call at the Malabar Coast.)

THE Steamship

"HEADLEY,"

will be despatched for the above Port, on or about SATURDAY, the 19th October.

For Freight, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 16th September, 1907.

(13)

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MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1907.

大拜禮 號八十二月九年英港香

513 PER ANNUM.
SINGAPORE, 25 CENTS.

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Local and General.

On September 16, 1907, at Shanghai, the wife of PERCY CRIGTON, of a daughter.

On September 16, 1907, at Shanghai, the wife of FRANCIS ELLIS of Shanghai, of a son.

On September 16, 1907, at Shanghai, the wife of W. HUNTER, of a son.

On September 17, 1907, at Shanghai, the wife of Capt. J. R. MILLER, of a daughter.

On September 17, 1907, at Shanghai, the wife of GEORGE GUNDRY, of a son.

On September 23, 1907, at Shanghai, the wife of ALBRECHT SANDER, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On September 17, 1907, at Shanghai, Mr. H. J. WILLIAMS to Miss MAZE E. JILL, both of Point De Galle, Ceylon.

On September 18, 1907, at Yokohama, WILLIAM ALBERT REED to MABEL MAY SAMSON.

DEATHS.

On September 23, 1907, at the Peak Hospital, on the 32nd September at 9.40 a.m., LEIZIE VANSTONE, wife of J. J. Vanstone, Masonic Hall. Age 43 years. For obituary papers please copy.

THE DECLINE OF PAKHOI.

(21st September.)

In his report on the trade of Pakhoi in 1906, the British Acting Consul, Mr. Savage, attempts to paint a bright and attractive picture from colours that are faded and dead. It may be that Pakhoi will become one of these days an important port of call in South China, but as matters stand at present what seems most evident to the looker-on is the steady decline in the trade of the port. Mr. Savage attributes the decrease shown on the import and export sides of the report in great measure to the effects of the typhoon of last year, which did much damage to houses, junks, fishing craft and standing crops. Then again, little or no rain fell during the last three months of the year with the result that "the rice, sugar and sweet potato crops suffered accordingly."

In the view of the undiminished optimism Mr. Savage adds: "In these circumstances it was not to be expected that trade would flourish; the wonder is rather, that its balance sheet should not reveal a greater deficit than it actually does." But are we to believe that the deficit was

due solely to such a circumstance as an "elemental disturbance"? It must not be forgotten that last year Pakhoi was in the centre of a ruffled and agitated population, which was awaiting with eagerness, not unmixed with anxiety, the steps to be taken against the officials who had failed to discharge their trust according to the idea of the leading reformers in the district. People awaited events in suspense and allowed other affairs to drift. Neither Chinese peasants nor those of other countries are inclined to toil and slave in the effort to win a scanty livelihood from a rocky soil when there is a possibility, which looms larger every day, that they will not be permitted to reap the fruit of their labour.

And while Pakhoi last year was speculating what would be the outcome of things, there are still the same rumours, the tales of actual fighting between the reformers and the Imperial troops, the absence of security and protection, the sense of disaster, all of which contribute to the decline of trade generally. In 1906 the total value of Pakhoi's trade was £407,979—reckoned on the basis of the Haikwan tael being worth 35.34d.—a decrease of nearly £24,000. Of that amount £15,457 was due to a falling off in the import trade and £24,491 in the export trade. As Mr. Savage remarks, "it might be assumed that the decrease in the import trade would fall to be borne by foreign manufacturers, but inspection of the table of principal imports shows that such was not the case. On the contrary, most of the principal imports of foreign origin increased in quantity. But there was a heavy drop in the import of nankeens (native cloth) amounting to over 1,600 cwt. which alone would account for the difference. What was still more satisfactory was that that portion of the trade which consists most largely of British goods actually shows an improvement over the value of the year 1905."

When dealing with the question of opium, Mr. Savage is honestly sceptical, albeit in a proper and decorous way, of the ability of the Chinese Government to clear the drug out of Pakhoi; at any rate for some time to come. Of course he does not say so in these words, but unless we misread his meaning that should be his opinion. He states: "Indian opium figures in the import list to the amount of 220 cwt., valued at £17,493, as compared with 209 cwt., valued at £15,668 in 1905. Yunnan opium is also represented with a modest 9 cwt., estimated at £600. This is interesting, as it affords an opportunity of comparing the respective values of the Indian and the native drug when landed here. Indian opium works out at £79, and Yunnan at £66 13s. 4d. per cwt. Apart from the fact that various yamens have received written instructions whereby the officials and their staff are given three months to break off the habit of opium-smoking, no active steps have as yet been taken to restrict the general use of the drug by the people. Early last year new taxes were instituted on opium throughout the province in the form of licences to be taken out by all shops and divans selling prepared opium. The usual practice of farming the taxes was adopted, a system which does not benefit the public revenue to the fullest extent, but which has at least the advantage, from the Chinese official's point of view, of saving much trouble and of avoiding a good deal of popular opposition and discontent. The amounts paid by the shops on account of this tax vary from about 20 shillings per month in the case of the largest shops to 2 or 3 shillings in the case of the smallest. The incidence of these additional taxes does not appear so far to have had any effect upon the consumption of opium in general." So that despite bad trade and the increased tax on the drug, the people still continued their old habit of philosophically consoling themselves with the opium pipe. The sugar grown in the Pakhoi district finds itself at a disadvantage when having to compete with the product of Java. We read that: "As far as quantity goes, most of the principal exports show a decided improvement with the unfortunate exception of sugar, the most important of all. This article has decreased by over 200 tons since 1905 and is 3,278 tons below the average of the past six years. This is partly due to damage to the crop from the heavy spring rainfall, but the competition of Java sugar in the Hongkong market is the chief cause of the decline."

With the object of bolstering up the port, it has been suggested that Pakhoi should be connected with the West River basin by railway. On this subject Mr. Savage admits that the scheme would almost certainly cause a considerable expansion of trade but, he adds, "it remains doubtful whether such expansion would be sufficient to warrant the necessary outlay, and it is still more doubtful whether the capital required could be procured in this impoverished district. The promoters of the scheme have, it is true, approached the Yuet-Han (Canton-Hankow) Railway Company for assistance in placing their shares upon the Chinese market—for foreigners are not wanted—and have been met in a sympathetic spirit. But the enormous difficulties of financial organisation and management, with which the stronger Cantonese combination has had to contend, and which it has yet been unable to overcome, will undoubtedly repeat themselves for many years to come in any similar venture undertaken by Chinese themselves, so long as they insist upon rigidly excluding themselves from the valuable assistance of foreign capital, and the equally essential advantages of foreign experience. In these circumstances it is at least unlikely that their fairy dreams of railway development will materialise into solid realities for a long time to come." To conclude, the decline of Pakhoi

seems self-evident, and even Mr. Savage has to admit that the trade has fallen so low "that it seems improbable that it can fall much lower." The trade area has dwindled gradually, owing to the competition of newly opened ports, to little or nothing beyond the neighbouring district.

THE INDUSTRIAL FUTURE OF CHINA.

(3rd September.)

The exceptionally well-informed article by "Asiatius" in the *Pail Mail Gazette*, and reproduced in this paper last week, will have commanded attention for the correctness of the views expressed by the writer in the home journal. In noticing the article on the great question of the industrial future of China, with which the interests of this Colony are so intimately bound up, the *Singapore Free Press* remarks that "those innocent persons that think nations can shut themselves up in a ring fence and work out their own destiny for well or woe independent of the pressure of outside humanity, are vastly mistaken. It is some such conception that is at the bottom of all the ideas of Labour and Socialism. They do not realise that there may be irresistible human forces outside of their ken and control that may some day bend them or break them as they will. Such an aggregation of forces 'Asiatius' finds in the as yet almost dormant activities of China, an aggregation of hundred peoples that has hitherto lived self-sufficient to its own needs."

With the opinion of our Straits contemporary that "all that is about to be changed" most people will agree. The eagerness with which railway schemes are being taken up, the introduction of telephone system and electric lighting, the installation of wireless telegraphy, are all the practical results of the assimilation of Western ideas which is to be seen carried into effect in our own immediate neighbourhood in Canton. "Contact with the West and Western methods," as the *Free Press* correctly observes, "has taught the enlightened Chinese capitalists and merchants that the way to wealth lies in commerce and industry that shall have for a field no longer the limited area of Chinese provinces and seaports, but the countries of the whole world. In this Japan has, with its greater mental agility and facility of assimilation of Western ideas, taken the initiative. And as to this it is only enough to point to the greater Japanese Shipping Companies that not only cover the Pacific Oceans on both sides with their operations, but run direct lines to Europe, thus forming an independent medium of commercial exchange between Japan and Europe."

China has already done something in this direction upon her own coast, and even in the Straits we find the Chinese individual and company shipowners enterprising and active. It will be but a short time before we see some great equivalent to the P. and O. Company, or the N. D. Lloyd in the form of a Chinese line, or lines to Europe and to the American Pacific coast. With that a great further development of the true Chinese industries now being created in China. One can see the movement in the new and intense Chinese desire to find their own capital for their own railways, mines, mills, and ironworks. That is but the first feeble trickle of what some day will be the letting out of great waters. When China begins to compete in European and American markets, as she will some day in steel, in machinery, in electric plant, in textiles of every kind, and under cut all European rates because of endless supplies of labour willing to work two hours for the white workers' one, and to work hard where the trade Union members go slow deliberately to limit output, the British worker will begin to find that he has run up against a snag that never in all the centuries to come will he be able to get clear of. When the day comes that the Chinese industrial companies and trusts can sell in Europe and in England articles that the British artisan cannot turn out for double the money, discovery of that will come on British industry with a shock that will afford poor chance of recovery. We who know the Chinese worker know that a great deal of what "Asiatius" says is entirely true. Whether all that he says about the probability of Chinese merchants is so favourable as he makes out, is something about which we may have varied opinions."

"IS THAT TRUE?"

(24th September.)

"Is that true?" was the somewhat disconcerting exclamation of His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard when he was informed that his inaugural shot over the new rifle range at the Peak on Saturday had scored a "possible." Everybody knows how these pleasant affairs are arranged and everybody is prepared for the perfectly proper signal which follows the opening of a rifle range by the chief administrator of the Colony. His Excellency, however, not being versed in these happy evidences of friendly feeling and encouragement had his doubts and, no doubt to the astonishment of those in attendance, gave expression to them. Whatever the answer to his query was, and we are not told that any was offered, there is an application in His Excellency's question which is carried to its ultimate limits must involve important issues in the conduct of the administration of Hongkong's public affairs. When a Governor arrives in a colony where the conditions are totally different in every respect to those to which his previous experience has accustomed him, it is but natural that he should accept the views and ideas of those who come within his immediate

circle. These views may, of course, be admirably suited to the needs of the Colony, or they may be simply the stereotyped expression of a hide-bound bureaucracy. It is for the Governor to discover for himself the real situation, and therefore it is that all who are interested in the welfare of the Colony will rejoice in believing that the independent character of His Excellency's mind may be traced in the remark, made almost unconsciously, "Is that true?"

At the present time there is scarcely a single question of public concern on which any half-dozen residents in Hongkong are agreed. More or less, people are united in expressing their views on the subject of reforms, but when it comes to details hopeless confusion abounds. On the subject of opium, to take one example, the correct attitude to assume is that in favour of abolition. In order to attain this end a few harmless and otherwise well-meaning zealots present statements which they naturally assert to be facts, and by a lavish expenditure of embroideries seek to foist their views on the Government regardless of the opinions of those most concerned. The average official in a Crown Colony, or at all events those at the head of departments, is but a transient visitor and it is accordingly his aim to steer a middle way between contending parties, on the principle that the smaller the fuss the greater the prospects of promotion. The question eventually comes before the Governor who, disdaining to take everything for granted, asks "Is that true?" not with the object of receiving a reply in the affirmative, but in order that all the proofs which have convinced his subordinates may be laid before him. Of course, the question itself is as old as the hills; it was rendered historical by Pontius Pilate; it was, perhaps, the original remark which ushered duplicity into the world. At the same time while a statement may in itself be true, it may conceal a very material portion of the truth—in other words it may not be the whole truth, and that applies very particularly to Hongkong.

There is hardly a report or set of statistics relating to conditions in Hongkong which is not susceptible to criticism on that point. A Commission is appointed to investigate a certain question; the opinions of the members are known to everybody and the result is a foregone conclusion, because it follows that any examination that may take place is confined to the confirmation of the views already expressed. In the majority of instances, those views or premises have been hammered and pounded into the heads of those who are not prepared to take the trouble to think for themselves, with the result that those who cavil at finding or suggest that there is another side to the question are regarded as intolerant reactionaries. If His Excellency the Governor, in the consideration of the affairs which come under his review, in the course of his daily duties, keeps the question "Is that true?" as his lodestone, his task of securing the welfare of the Colony will be vastly increased; but the end will justify his labours, provided that the bottom of the well is thoroughly dredged. Indeed, there is probably no resident in Hongkong who is more greatly handicapped in the acquisition of the entire facts pertaining to any public matter than His Excellency the Governor. Living in a serene atmosphere where the immediate difficulties of the governed are not apparent, and surrounded by those whose main anxiety is to give the Colonial Office as little trouble as possible, the Governor may be inclined to believe that all is well in the State of Peking when the opposite is the case. It is not for the hoi-polloi, the native residents, the underpaid civil servants, the unrepresented taxpayers to blazon forth their grievances or to clamour about the disabilities under which they labour. Their duty is to remain quiet, and truth to tell that is not a very difficult thing for them to do, for the major portion of those few hours which are left to them after the toil of the day are generally spent in solving the problem, a veritable *passionnément* in many cases how to make both ends meet. However, we may take it that His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard comes to the work of administering the affairs of Hongkong with the broad determination to find out, in the first place, the whole truth and then to act upon his knowledge of the truth. In any event, the snap-shot query "Is that true?" will not be lost on that fraternity which would bolster up bogus claims or support impossible assertions by means of fabricated facts. Sir Frederick Lugard has given the Colony a pointer which is eminently necessary in these days of fraud and humbug—"Is that true?"

OFFICIAL OMISSIONS.

(25th September.)

When Mr. Thomas H. Whitehead was justifying his title to the designation of the Report of debate at the Legislative Council of Hongkong, he succeeded in compelling the Government to append to every Bill introduced into the Council an epitome of the Bill together with an explanation of its purpose, which was termed his "objects and reasons." Prior to that innovation, Bills were flung on the table without a single word to account for their presence, and it members by some happy chance managed to discover the motive which had induced the Government to introduce the Bill, or by their gift of second sight found themselves in a position toathom the working of the official mind as shown in the Bill, so much the better for them. But the devices and tortuous reasonings which lead to the framing of Government measures are frequently beyond the understanding of the most pronounced quidnunc, and Mr. Thomas Whitehead had the entire community on his side when he obtained the promise of the Government to give the "objects and reasons" with every Bill introduced, so that its purpose might be open to criticism before it came up

for the second reading. So far as the majority of people are concerned, the only opportunity they have of learning the character of the new Bills introduced is through the medium of the Press. When a Bill consists of 50 or 60 clauses it is manifestly impossible to publish it *in extenso* in a daily newspaper, and therefore the official summary and explanation are all the more valuable both to the legislators and the general community. These "objects and reasons," then, have been consistently appended to every new Bill since the time of Mr. Whitehead, and it does not appear that by this concession to the public the Government have lost any degree of their bureaucratic power. But now that we have a Governor who is unfamiliar with the established forms of business at the Legislative Council, and an Attorney-General who is equally fresh to the soil, the old order of things appears to be in a fair way to being "improved" out of existence. Not one among the batch of new Bills which were introduced at the first regular meeting of the Legislative Council presided over by His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, and which were contained in a volume which could be termed an explanation of its "objects and reasons" for presentation. Two of the Bills were of the highest importance to the Colony and we would defy anybody either to make head or tail of their provisions, or to explain the necessity for their introduction. These were the Bill dealing with the publication of seditious matter in the Colony—that is to say, matter which would be deemed seditious in China by the Chinese Government—and the Bill amending the Stocks Ordinance. The Seditious Bill would appear to be a most comprehensive measure, hitting at Chinese and English newspapers alike. Indeed, if it passes as it stands it is difficult to see how the most cautious Editor or Publisher will escape the penalty of two years' imprisonment for using seditious language calculated to inflame the people of China against the Chinese Government—that model of propriety, impartiality, and constitutional administration. We, who are British subjects, regard with amusement the law of *lese majesty* as it is worked by an ultra-official police in Germany, but this Bill proposes to convict of *lese majesty* and of sedition anyone who publishes anything derogatory to the Chinese Government or likely to assist the leaders of the opposition in China. In fact, if it passes into law as it stands, the Press of Hongkong will be practically compelled to ignore the very existence of China, to make a holocaust of all telegrams relating to Chinese disturbances, to smother, strangle and pack in a trunk for shipment abroad all rumours, reports and statements of Chinese official doings, no matter how well authenticated they may be, to enunciate tales of starvation, over-taxation, eleemosynary aid, droughts, famines, elemental catastrophes, lest their appearance should be deemed subversive of China's good government; to sniffle, poison and decapitate all references even to prosperity in case the Empress Dowager should complain that the reformers may get up in arms, and to withhold all references to comets, eclipses, falling stars, spots on the sun, messages from Mars, the rings of Saturn and the gesticulations of Jupiter, in order that the people may not be incited to wrath and rebellion and the sleep of the Royal Family at Peking seriously imperilled. At all events, the Bill seems to make provision for all these things. Yet we are afforded the ghost of an idea why it should be introduced now or whether it is done to propitiate Viceroy Chung, the new ruler of Canton. And so it is with the other Bills. The unofficial members are a negligible quantity; why, then, continue a system which was only introduced because there happened to be a people's champion at the Council once upon a time? That seems to be the official attitude, the unofficial members of to-day will say nothing; the Governor is ignorant of the custom; the Attorney-General is likewise in the dark—there is only the general taxpayer left—if he murmurs so much the worse for him. This hold-and-corner business, administration by means of the "C.S.O." and general disregard of the rights of the people is becoming a trifle too common. We can only trust that His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard will stand by "old custom" in this respect at least and issue orders that the former practice of withholding "objects and reasons" to all new Bills be resumed and adhered to.

BRITISH INTERVENTION REQUIRED AT SAM-CHUN.

(26th September.)

Among the many difficulties which have to be overcome by enlightened opinion in China none attains such dimensions as that which conflicts with the superstitious beliefs of the people. The construction of railways, together with the introduction of telegraphic communication, has inevitably been hindered by the caprice of the ignorant body of the community, even despite the advice of the elders and counsellors. Occasionally the action of the people in manifesting their objection to the new-fangled notions brought from the end of the earth has been quietly engineered and guided by those who had an eye to business in the future and the fanaticism begot by ignorance has been used to serve the purpose of the schemer. Accordingly, when it was determined to construct a railway between Kowloon and Canton fears were entertained that some of the natives in the interior might see in the innovation an insult to the sacred soil. It is wonderful, by the way, how useful an auxiliary *fung-shui* is to the disconcerted, the money-grabbers and the speculators. A parcel of land which may not be worth a song as it stands becomes the special domain of the land genius immediately anybody suggests that it may have some value. But this quality attaching to the soil disappears very rapidly should the proprietor be the Chinese Government or the Viceroy of the Province. There was no suggestion of *fung-shui* when Viceroy Shum or ex-Minister Chang projected their railway scheme to Amoy via Whampoa; the people were bravely ordered to give up their land with the best grace possible, for if they failed to do so they would suffer the consequences. It has been the policy of the Hongkong Government in directing the operations of the Kowloon section of the line to Canton to propitiate and conciliate the native Chinese residing in the New Territory in every possible way in order that trouble might be averted and the question of geomantic influences avoided. So carefully has that policy been pursued that with but one or two exceptions, when rapacious squatters sought to trespass their property with a

fictitious value by attributing to the soil supernatural virtues, there has been no clash between the natives and the Philistines. Yesterday, however, we received private information to the effect that a somewhat serious affair had occurred at Sam-chun, in which a British surveying party employed in connection with the railway had been assaulted by a gang of rascals. We have no wish in the slightest degree to magnify the importance of an unfortunate and unexpected occurrence, more especially as we must remain in the dark for some time as to the real or alleged cause of the disturbance. But its significance is not to be glossed over, as if it were an ordinary everyday event. To begin with, we may confidently assume that the surveying party did absolutely nothing which would run counter to the opinions, beliefs, customs or habits of the people. Then, again, the appearance of foreign surveyors is no new feature at Sam-chun, which stands on the border between British and Chinese territory. And on previous visits the engineers have been allowed to go unmolested. What then aroused the wrath of the people to such an extent as to assemble a peaceable expedition? It must be remembered that Sam-chun—the Berwick of Kwangtung—is a veritable hotbed of turbulence; it is eternally seething with alarms; the people are entirely beyond the control of the authorities and mob law prevails. Sam-chun is no mean city in its way, for it is the greatest market town on the route of the railway between Kowloon and Canton. It is the rendezvous of all the filibusters, vagabonds, wandering Ishmaels and partisans on the peninsula, and in times of excitement it is one of the head centres of the malcontents. In fact, Sam-chun is a perpetual source of trouble, a menace to all peaceable communities in the district, and a nuisance which the Chinese authorities should long ago have disciplined and controlled. It will thus be recognised that inhibited as Sam-chun is by a lawless and law-breaking population, the slightest incident such as an occasion for an uproar, and it speaks volumes for the diplomacy of the British railway representatives who have visited the market-town in the past that no exhibition of anti-foreign feeling has occurred. We may also take it for granted that only the forbearance and wisdom of the party attacked the other day, kept the nascent emuete within bounds. The fact of the matter is, Sam-chun should never have been left in the hands of the Chinese when Great Britain was delimiting her territory on the mainland. The line of demarcation should have brought the town and river of Sam-chun well within the jurisdiction of British authority and then there would have been an end once and for ever to all the affrays, tumults, uprisings and disturbances which are endemic in Sam-chun. In place of a fighting, quarrelsome, rebellious centre of disaffection, we would have had a flourishing market-town, the store-house for the products of that fertile district which in course of time will be tapped by the railway, and the distributing point for goods to the Hongkong. After all what does China want with Sam-chun? Naturally the Canton authorities would plaintively declare that without the unruly, dissipated, disorderly element of a town, one of the brightest jewels of the Province would be lost to the Imperial Government, but it is doubtful if they could be regarded as entirely disingenuous. Sam-chun as it stands is an excrescence and should be treated as such. Let Great Britain firmly declare that Sam-chun is part and parcel of the New Territory, install guards and police, deny the rights of others to collect *kien* and convert the place into a respectable outpost of British interest. It must come to that sooner or later, for we cannot tolerate an Alsatia at the junction of the British and Chinese sections of the Kowloon-Canton railway—and if Sam-chun is brought within the scope of British influence before the railway has reached the town, and before a start is made with the construction of the great bridge across the river, to much the better. The step may be taken so it might as well be taken at once. It will prove as advantageous and beneficial to China as it will to Great Britain, or rather Hongkong, and it is unlikely that any other power will have a word to say on the subject, for it is not a case of annexation of new territory or an instance of Britain's facility for land-grabbing on any excuse, but a simple desire to remove a wayward and dangerous centre of disturbance to peace and tranquillity. As for the assault on the British surveying party, we shall in all probability never know the origin of it. We will be reassured with tales of *fung-shui* by the peasants; of anti-monarchical rebels by the authorities; and of reactionaries by the reformers. Whatever the alleged cause of the outbreak, it should have the effect of opening the eyes of the Government of Hongkong to the extreme danger of a lowly Sam-chun to remain outwith British jurisdiction, a menace to the prestige of British administration.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF RUBBER CULTIVATION.

(27th September.)

About ten years ago, a few experimentalists in Ceylon turned their attention to the cultivation of rubber, with the object of finding out whether the soil of the Colony was suitable for the propagation of the plant, and whether the world's supply of rubber which fell far short of the demand could be augmented by the East Indies. In many respects, the planters entered upon their experiment with but little practical knowledge of what was necessary to secure the best results, but the natural care and attention which they had devoted to their tea and coffee plantations were not cast aside when considering the possibilities of rubber. In 1903 patches of *Hevea Brasiliensis* were in cultivation on a considerable number of estates, but the planters of Ceylon, being in receipt of remunerative prices for their tea, were not disposed to make any special provision for a plant whose characteristics were but imperfectly understood and whose future was, to say the least, problematical. In the Malayan States, however, where coffee was the chief agricultural product, low returns induced the owners of plantations to look around in the hope of discovering an auxiliary which would compensate them for the trouble of cultivation and enhance the value of their estates. In some of the Malayan States, there has long been a mistaken idea that the Federated Malay States are given over to tin mining, notwithstanding the fact that agri-horticulture shows which have been held of late years to prove the progress made in agriculture. It is true that many fortunes have been made out of tin, but the real wealth of the Malay States lies in its agricultural possibilities, a fact which has been made manifest by the interest shown in the cultivation

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1907.

THE DECLINE OF PAKHOI.

(21st September.)

In his report on the trade of Pakhoi in 1906, the British Acting Consul, Mr. Savage, attempts to paint a bright and attractive picture from colours that are faded and dead. It may be that Pakhoi will become one of these days an important port of call in South China, but as matters stand at present what seems most evident to the looker-on is the steady decline in the trade of the port. Mr. Savage attributes the decrease shown on the import and export sides of the report in great measure to the effects of the typhoon of last year, which did much damage to houses, junks, fishing craft and standing crops. Then again, little or no rain fell during the last three months of the year with the result that "the rice, sugar and sweet potato crops suffered accordingly."

In the view of the undiminished optimism Mr. Savage adds: "In these circumstances it was not to be expected that trade would flourish; the wonder is rather, that its balance sheet should not reveal a greater deficit than it actually does." But are we to believe that the deficit was

tion of rubber. Once it appeared to the energetic planters of Malaya that there was money in rubber they went into the matter with an energy and determination which commanded success. The result is that the aggregate crop for next year is estimated at 650,000 tons, whereas Ceylon is only expected to be credited with 100,000 tons. Of course, these figures are small and insignificant, but the two together only represent about one-eighth of the world's supply, and they show what has been done in the short space of four or five years. What will be done during the next decade is the question which is interesting those who are concerned with the future of rubber cultivation. Natural rubber is a profitable and safe investment, several companies were launched mostly by planters in Ceylon and Malaya. These companies were sound, solid concerns, floated with sufficient capital to keep things going and with no idea of attracting outside support. The prospectuses were terse, bald and definite; there were no catchpenny allures about them, but, as the promoters and the shareholders knew exactly what they were investing their money and neither required nor asked for elaborate explanations. But as the prospects of rubber cultivation improved, the professional company promoter came on the scene, and for a time there was a "boom" in rubber shares, which frequently proved to have been so profusely watered that anything like a dividend was a thing of dream and forget. In time of course, these companies will take their place alongside the more respectable concerns for the reason that rubber is essentially a sound investment, and its use is capable of surmounting the obstacles placed in its way by speculators. In order that investors in rubber may have at hand a book of reference giving utility the chief points of interest in connection with the companies formed to cultivate rubber. Messrs. J. Oppen & Sons, of Colombo, have issued a "Tropical Investors' Guide" which is further described as a register of rubber and tea companies in Ceylon, Malaya and elsewhere. As evidence of the remarkable development that has taken place in the rubber industry in this part of the world, it need only be mentioned that the Guide gives particulars of considerably over 200 companies, most of which have been floated within the last three or four years, or since the "boom" set in. But if we are to judge from the opinion of an expert, Mr. F. Grosbie Roles, there should be a vastly-increased number of plantations before the rubber market is depressed. He estimates that in 1910, the production of Ceylon will be in the neighbourhood of 2,000,000 tons, while the Malay peninsula 4,000,000 tons may be exported with 15,000 tons from the Dutch colonies and Borneo. "By this time," he adds, speaking of 1910 "rubber should be in use for paving streets, and nothing worse may have happened than a reduction in the market price of 50 per cent, with a constant demand at this figure for all that can be brought to market from all sources. The world's demand in 1907 may be put at 70,000 tons, but the annual 10 per cent. increase in consumption of the last few years can be doubled when rubber becomes cheap enough for use in important directions which are at present closed to it. "The Tropical Investors' Guide" comes, therefore, at a timely moment, when rubber cultivation has safely rounded the corner of wild speculation, and when it has settled down as one of the important industries of Malaya and Ceylon. The Guide is not a mere jumble of names, dates and flashy collection of statements from the promoters, but it is actually a manual of reference, giving succinctly the principal features of the rubber and tea companies, the former pre-dominating, which have been established since the value of rubber was realised by planters in the East. For example, to take one company at random, the Guide gives the amount of capital, the shares issued, the directors and officials, the location and extent of the estates, the nature of cultivation and the progress being made, the number of trees and the date when they were planted, the output in 1906 and the estimated return, the company's general information regarding the company's side products, and the market quotation of the shares on 1st June. It will be seen that the statement of the company's position is fairly comprehensive and should certainly meet the requirements of intending investors. The volume is a combined register of sterling, rupee and dollar companies, the first of its kind, and may be described as the planter's *valde mecum*. Whether rubber will ever become a profitable investment in Hongkong is a problem which only Mr. Dunn, of the Botanical and Forestry Department, and his assistant, Mr. Titcher, are likely to be in a position to state, but considering there is abundant evidence to show that the cultivation of tea was once a flourishing industry in the New Territories, and that tea and rubber have a sort of natural affinity, it is possible that a new source of income may be added to the attention of the natives on the mainland, and another product added to the list of Hongkong's export trade.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

A PLUCKY WOMAN AND THREE ROBBERS.

News which reached the police to-day give the details of a most daring highway robbery which was perpetrated on the road to Cheung-shan yesterday afternoon, the victim being a farmer's wife named Li Kiu. The woman, who is about thirty years of age, and lives at Sam-shui-po, was returning home from paying a visit to friends at Mong-kok and Yau-ma-ti. Arriving at the bend of the road—a very secluded spot, and about 200 yards from her house—three men, who had been sitting on the roadside, called upon her to stop, at the same time one of the highwaymen produced an iron crowbar, which was hidden in a ditch near him, and approached the trembling woman. "Cry out and your life is not worth a minute's purchase," said one man—or words to that effect. "Hand over your money." Although considerably scared the woman was by no means anxious to part with her cash, and remained looking at the scoundrels.

"Search her, then," said one of them, and immediately one of the robbers proceeded to carry out the order. Losing all fear by now the woman struck out at the man who had attempted to search her and a struggle ensued. A second robber went to his comrade's assistance and between them they had a hard time trying to subdue the woman's fighting ardour. A blow, however, dealt by the third man with the crowbar over the woman's right eye silenced her for a time. Then they collected \$350, all the cash she had in her purse, which they carried off, and fled in the direction of Lai-chi-ko.

Li Kiu continued her journey home, notified the villagers of the affair, and, accompanied by a few friends, told her story to Sergeant Sim, of Sam-shui-po Police Station. That same afternoon the villagers captured Li Kiu, a man, and from information given the police by the latter, two others—Tsang Tam and Wong Kin Shan—were arrested. The woman identified them as her assailants. At the Police Court, to-day, the trio were charged with committing armed robbery. The case was adjourned.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

PRESIDENT OF DIRECTORS.

SIR CHIENGTUNG APPOINTED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shameen, 24th September, 4.55 p.m.

In answer to the shareholders' petition, by telegram, and the Viceroy's recommendation, the Throne has sanctioned the appointment of Sir Chiengtung Liang Cheng, ex-Chinese Minister to Washington, as President of the Yuet Han Railway Co.

DISASTROUS CONFLAGRATION AT WUCHOW.

ENORMOUS DAMAGE.

INCENDIARISM SUSPECTED.

PROTEST AGAINST EXTRA TAXATION.

[From a Correspondent.]

Wuchow, 27th September, 1.30 p.m.

A disastrous conflagration occurred here this morning.

Hundreds of houses have been gutted, and a large number of boats and pontoons destroyed by fire.

It is suspected that the populace have effectively carried out their threat, mentioned in my letter of the 23rd inst., against the establishment of the new Likin station at Kai Sow and the imposition of extra taxation.

Business at the port is at a complete standstill.

ANTI-CHRISTIAN RIOTS.

FRENCH PRIEST REPORTED SLAIN.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 27th September, 3.00 p.m.

Serious rioting has taken place at Kanchow, in Kiangsi Province.

The outbreak was directed against the Catholics.

It is reported that a French Father has been slain.

THE KANCHOW MASSACRE.

CULMINATION OF BOXERISM.

ONE PRIEST KILLED. OTHERS ESCAPED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 27th September, 5 p.m.

The riot, reported in my first telegram, near the city of Kanchow, is the culmination of Boxerism which has been rampant in Kiangsi Province since July last.

The Rev. Father Candulja, an Italian priest, was killed in the melee.

A French priest succeeded in effecting his escape.

Many converts were ruthlessly massacred.

The mission station at Kanchow has been burnt out.

The missionaries escaped to the yamen, thence to Kianfu.

The Reverend Superior of the Lazarites Order, to which the French missionaries belong, wires from Kianfu that the missionaries and converts are in great danger, and that assistance is urgently needed.

[The above telegram was received too late last evening for publication in our last issue—Ed. H.K.T.]

THE WUCHOW EMEUTE.

KEROSENE DEPOT EXPLOSION.

BRITISH CONSULATE GUARDED.

[From a Correspondent.]

Wuchow, 27th September, 6.50 p.m.

The disastrous conflagration, which broke out in the city this morning, has been extinguished.

During the progress of the fire, the Kerosene Depot exploded.

So far, it is approximately estimated that the number of lives lost, by the riotous outbreak, is about one hundred.

The estimate of damage in property is roughly placed at not less than a quarter million dollars. It is more than probable that, when an

estimate of the enormous damage by fire and mob violence comes to be computed, the quarter-million limit will be greatly exceeded.

Mob law obtains in the native city, which is being looted by the rioters. His Majesty's river gunboat *Robin* is guarding the British Consulate. All foreigners within the settlement are safe.

TYPHOON WARNING.

The American Consul-General received the telegram quoted below from the Manila Observatory at 2.30 p.m. last Tuesday:

September 24, 1907, 1 p.m. Typhoon about E.N.E. Guam approaching Southern Ladrones Islands.

September 25th, 1907, 6.45 a.m. September 25th, 1907, 6.30 p.m., typhoon crossing North Guam.

September 27, 1907, 1 p.m. Typhoon between 18 and 21 lat, about 141 E. moving apparently N.W. at present.

GYMKHANA NOTES.

THE LAST MEETING.

Those popular meetings of the Hongkong Gymkhana Club, which, during this hot season, have proved to be such a success, both from a sporting and, I presume, a financial viewpoint, are rapidly coming to a close. In the matter of a few final enthusiasts the season is being wound up early, but preparations have to be made for next year's race meeting; there are little odds and ends to attend to, which the uninitiated cannot comprehend; arrangements have to be made for the arrival of the gaffs, which, by the way, are due here shortly, and some of our "budding" jockeys require time to foster—in Dreamland, or on the track, if possible—pluck and discretion, the latter especially in bringing home the colours. Since the fifth and final meeting is due to take place at Happy Valley on the afternoon of the 30th prox., and, needless to say, gives good weather the attendance will be a record one. Excitement runs high in racing circles at the present time as to the probable winner of the Challenge Cup, which has resolved itself into a match between Blue Nile and Coxcomb.

Blue Nile, I am told, is a very level former adherent of Blue Nile being confident that he will win, and is rapidly coming to a close. In the matter of a few final enthusiasts the season is being wound up early, but preparations have to be made for next year's race meeting; there are little odds and ends to attend to, which the uninitiated cannot comprehend; arrangements have to be made for the arrival of the gaffs, which, by the way, are due here shortly, and some of our "budding" jockeys require time to foster—in Dreamland, or on the track, if possible—pluck and discretion, the latter especially in bringing home the colours. Since the fifth and final meeting is due to take place at Happy Valley on the afternoon of the 30th prox., and, needless to say, gives good weather the attendance will be a record one. Excitement runs high in racing circles at the present time as to the probable winner of the Challenge Cup, which has resolved itself into a match between Blue Nile and Coxcomb.

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CANTON-KOWLOON RAILWAY.

SURVEYORS ATTACKED.

VILLAGERS' SUPERSTITION.

25th inst.

From the initiation of its works in connection with the construction of the Kowloon-Canton Railway, some three years ago, it was a singular fact that at no stage of the progress of the works was any serious hindrance placed either in the preliminary survey of the route or since then in the building of the first sections of the British line. Differences, it is true, there have been with the villagers, but they were of a minor character, connected, principally with the question of the small adjustments of land claims which presented no serious features in their settlement.

Not until this week, however, has a disturbance of a somewhat more serious character arisen which goes to show that, as the surveyors penetrate farther afield in the proximity of Chinese territory, resistance of a sort has been offered to the party engaged under the control of British engineers.

The somewhat scanty news which we have been able to gather to-day is derived from Chinese sources, and for want of time for verification it is impossible to invest the report with every degree of authenticity.

As far as we have been able to ascertain, it is learnt that at a point not far from the Chinese boundary line at Sam-chun, while a party was engaged surveying, the villagers set upon the surveyors, alleging unwarranted interference with the geomantic influences of the soil. So obdurate were the mob that, they would not listen to reason, and, in spite of persuasive arguments to induce the villagers to believe in the friendly mission of the party, the fanaticism of the natives went the length of their resorting to force ultimately to secure the expulsion of the railway party from the so-called proscribed territory.

In the midst, we are informed, a few of the men employed by the railway engineers were injured. It is believed that one of the Europeans also sustained some injuries. It has not been possible, at time of writing, to ascertain the name of the foreigner; but that the casualties include one *fan kwai* ("foreign devil"), as our informant told a member of our staff, there seems to be little reason to doubt. At any rate it is to be hoped that the matter is capable of prompt and easy adjustment and that the Chinese superstition—if nothing of a more serious character is at the bottom of the whole affair—will be promptly appeased.

The market-town of Sam-chun is noted for its turbulence. That the roystries of that district should manifest the true character of its population, is little wonder. But when it is recalled that, only a month ago, the Acting Viceroy of Canton issued a proclamation enjoining the observance of perfect amity to the railway surveyors and directed protection to the railroad workers while engaged in the survey of the line for the Chinese section, it will not be doubted that order will be promptly restored in the vicinity of Sam-chun.

ARMED ROBBERY IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

SUSPECTED ROBBERS IN POLICE CUSTODY.

27th inst.

News, though rather delayed, is to hand to-day of the arrest of four men yesterday in connection with an armed robbery which occurred at Tai-po, New Territory, in January, 1906. Seven men took part in the robbery, three of whom were captured some days later, and ultimately convicted; the remaining four escaping over the border into Chinese territory. Once across the boundary the police were helpless, but when they returned to British soil—as the quartette did early this week—the New Territory police got wind of the matter and arrested the band.

The robbery was perpetrated on the night of the 14th January, 1906. At about 8 o'clock that night, a woman, living at a village near Tai-po, was in her house with her child and another woman, when somebody came and rapped at her door, at the same time calling out "Open the door." Without opening the door she called out to know who was there, and what he, or they, wanted. A man outside called out that they were a party of government officials, and had been sent to search her house for opium. She said she had no opium, and refused to open the door, whereupon the same man cried out that she must not keep officials waiting, and that if she did not open the door at once they would break it in, and take her away to prison. Then she became frightened, and unlocked the door. I found ten men burst into the house, and began to search the premises. Each man carried a lighted torch in his left hand, and a knife or a dagger in his right hand. After examining both closely, he also stated that there were many differences between the two chops, which he detailed.

EXCITEMENT AT WUCHOW.

MERCHANTS & OFFICIALS.

BRITISH CONSUL AND MERCANTILE REPRESENTATIVES IN CONFERENCE.

Wuchow, 23rd September, 1907.

The native element in Wuchow are in a great state of excitement over the establishment of a new Lin station at Kai Sow, near the second bar at the entrance to Wuchow. It appears the Governor of the Province ordered the establishment of a new Lin station at this place, which was formerly a salt station. The new Lin station has met with severe disapproval from the people who are complaining of the extra taxation on their goods when they are already sufficiently burdened in the matter of taxes. To make matters worse the officials have shortened the foot measure to 10 inches and this to the conservative Chinaman is a gross breach of "old custom" and one that he will not tolerate without having a disturbance to remedy the injustice.

The crops of rice, too, have been singularly successful this year and as the prohibition to export rice has not been withdrawn since last year, the people are getting exasperated at having to keep surplus stocks on their hands when profitable markets are so near at hand. The agitation among the officials has been brooding for some time past and last week the Merchants' Guild laid their grievances before the officials and asked for the withdrawal of the rice prohibition and the disestablishment of the new Lin station at Kai Sow.

The officials having given the Merchants' Guild an unsatisfactory answer the latter proceeded to hold a meeting to decide what steps should be taken to remedy the situation. The meeting which was a protracted one finally decided to inform the officials that, unless their demands were complied with by the 20th day of the 8th moon (Sept. 27th), the merchants had resolved to stop all local trade, both imports and exports. Numerous circulars have been issued amongst the people who seem unusually united in this matter.

So far the officials have not shown any signs as to their ultimate intentions, but it is significant that the Consul left for Canton yesterday morning. Of course, it may be that the above official has only gone to Canton to pay his respects to the new Viceroy, but the situation is regarded as so serious locally that it is in connection with the present high feeling here that the present visit of the Consul is attributed to.

Should the Merchants' Guild and people carry out their threat of a boycott and suppression of all trade, the matter is very serious and judging from the present outlook this is the intention of the people. The matter not only affects Wuchow itself, but equally affects a large tract of country between here and Nanking and comprises big trading centres like Kwei Yuen, Kwan How, Topy Yuen, Nam Kong, Kwai Ping, etc.

With the stoppage of trade, imports from Hongkong, per West River steamers, will cease temporarily and this will be a very serious loss to the various shipping companies on the river. In addition to this the risk of lawlessness by the numerous refugees in this district will create a serious situation.

The British Consul and representatives of the foreign shipping firms are to have an interview with the officials to-day when it is hoped a satisfactory compromise will be effected. Should this fail, anticipations of a bad time are fully expected round here.

THE BRITISH POST OFFICE AT TIENTSIN.

As we briefly announced a few days ago, the Hongkong authorities have decided to close the British Post Office at Tientsin at the end of this month. The *Peking and Tientsin Times* describes this decision as "not only an inconvenience of the gravest kind, but a serious financial loss to the community." It asserts that if the proposal is carried through, it will mean that private and business mail matter which for the past year has come to port under the penny postal regulations, will, for three months, come to the recipient uncharged, the bill with both the foreign and domestic rates of the Chinese Imperial Post, doubled by penalty. The same paper understands that the local branch of the China Association and the Chamber of Commerce are taking the matter up warmly. Representations are said to have been made to the British Minister and also to the Hongkong office. Our Northern neighbours have our sympathy, and we hope that their representations will end in the rescinding of the order. We believe it would be a fair economy to close the Post Office at Tientsin while so many less important ports continue to enjoy the facilities which the presence of a local branch of the British Post Office brings. The importance of a cheap, efficient and regular mail service to a commercial community cannot be over-estimated, and the port which has the second largest foreign commercial community in China is certainly entitled to consideration.—*N. C. D. News.*

BOARDING A SHIP IN QUARANTINE.

SAMPAHAN HEAVILY PUNISHED.

At the instance of Dr. F. Grone, deputy health officer of the port, Chan Fai, the master of licensed passenger boat No. 114, was charged before Commander Basil Taylor, R.N., Harbour Master, yesterday, in the Marine Court, with concealing the number of his licence on the bows of his boat.

Dr. Grone said that on the 24th instant he boarded the Japanese steamer *Sorka Maru* then lying in the quarantine anchorage. While examining the passengers and crew he noticed defendant's sampans lying alongside. One man was going aboard of her at the time. He went to the side and looked over to take her number but found that she had a piece of sack hanging over her bows, which concealed it. After five more men had boarded the sampans she shoved off and witness followed in his launch. He got alongside some of the crew and asked the number.

Defendant said he knew nothing about the sack, but there may have been something covering the number.

His Worship imposed a fine of \$10, the alternative being three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

This morning, at the Police Court, the sampans were again charged before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne with approaching a ship in quarantine within thirty yards. Accused admitted charge.

Dr. Grone related the circumstances under which accused was fined by the Harbour Master yesterday, and added that although accused was fined for concealing the number on his boat the Harbour Master had no power to deal with him on this charge. Therefore he was requested to institute proceedings at the Magistracy.

His Worship informed accused that the offence was a very serious one, inasmuch as it endangered the health of the port. He would, however, take into consideration his punishment at the Marine Court yesterday, and fined him \$10.

THE TRAGEDY IN FRENCH STREET.

ADJOURNED UNTIL TO-MORROW.

33rd inst.

At the Criminal Sessions, this morning, before Mr. A. G. Wile, Chief Justice, the last case on the calendar came up for trial. It was that in which two coolies—Kwok Ohl and Tse On—were charged for the murder of one Lam Choi, a carpenter, of 258, Des Voeux Road West, in French Street, on the 27th August last.

The following were the jurymen empanelled:—Messrs. H. S. Bevan (foreman), C. Pien, Jos. Croabi, G. Gittins, W. J. Hobbs, H. A. Oldenberger and Alfred Ome. Mr. Reed Davis (Attorney-General) instructed by Mr. G. E. Morrell (Crown Solicitor), of Messrs. Denny and Bowley, appeared for the Crown; whilst Dr. Ho Kai, who was instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, represented the defendants.

Outlining the particulars of the case, the Attorney-General said that the prisoners were charged with committing murder in French Street, about 9.30 o'clock on the night of the 27th August. A police sergeant heard a noise outside No. 7 Police Station and went out to investigate. Arriving about seven paces from the junction of Queen's Road West and French Street the sergeant found the dead body of a Chinaman lying face downwards, on the street. A stream of blood was running from the man's body into the sidechannel. Altogether, the Attorney-General pursued, there were six stab wounds on the body—some on the right side, some on the left, and another on the right shoulder. Four men were later arrested in connection with the affair, but through the want of evidence two of the men had to be discharged, and they would be called to give evidence against the prisoners. Then he started to relate the story of the murder briefly. Deceased was a member of the Kwong On Club, the prisoners belonging to the Kwong Chung Shun Club. (Here the Attorney-General remarked that he was afraid his pronunciation of the name of the two clubs was not altogether good. He had not been long enough in the Colony to get into the way of pronouncing Chinese words, he said.) There was a dispute between the two clubs over a singing girl and almost nightly there were disturbances outside this girl's house. Witnesses would inform the jury that a member of one of the rival clubs, named Lau Fung, was engaged to this singing girl, who, on the night of the 27th, in consequence of this affair, Lau Fung was assaulted by a number of men belonging to the Kwong Chung Shun Club. That did not end the dispute; for on the evening of 27th August while Lau Fung, who was accompanied by the deceased and another man, named Lay Yu, were passing the San To Nallah, near Weier Street, he was attacked again. There was a fight, during which the deceased and Lay Yu took to their heels. They were pursued. As deceased ran into French Street the first prisoner was seen to stab him in the face and other parts of his body.

Witnesses for the Crown were then called and examined.

Mr. Frank Browne, Government Analyst, spoke as to finding blood-stains on a jacket handed him for examination by the police. This jacket, it might be mentioned, was being worn by the first prisoner up to the time of his arrest. No blood could be found of a knife handed witness by the police. The knife, he said, appeared to have been cleaned and scoured before it reached him.

Dr. C. M. Healey, officer in charge of the public mortuary, next took the stand. On the 28th August, he said, he examined the dead body of a Chinaman, about thirty years of age, named Lum Choi. There were seven wounds on the body. One measured 14 inches in length over the centre of the right collar-bone. The wound went downwards and backwards for 44 inches. This wound cut to the sub-clavicle artery. There were four other wounds in the back; situated about the centre of the back. One of these wounds was 11 inches long on the skin. It passed horizontally forwards, cutting through the seventh rib, and wounding the root of the left lung. Death, in witness's opinion, was due to hemorrhage and asphyxia, caused by the wounds in the back.

The case was adjourned until to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

ONE MAN CONVICTED.

At the Criminal Sessions, last Tuesday, before His Honour Mr. A. G. Wile, Chief Justice, the trial of Kwok Chiu and Tse On for the murder of one Lam Choi, in French Street, on the 27th August last, was concluded.

The new jury empanelled consisted of Messrs. W. Helms, M. Jensen, W. Glendenning, H. A. L. Oldenberger, A. Ohme, G. Gittins and H. J. Colahan.

Mr. W. Reed Davis, Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. G. E. Morrell (Crown Solicitor), prosecuted, and Mr. Dr. Ho Kai, instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, appeared for the defence. The jury having been informed of the facts of the case, as reported in a previous issue, evidence was called, after which counsel addressed the jury.

His Lordship, in summing up, directed the jurors to acquit the second prisoner, leaving only the first to deal with. If they believed the evidence, they could either bring in a verdict of manslaughter or murder. In his opinion it was murder, as the quarrel was of some standing and the result of the fight was a death which was caused by stabbing.

The jury found the first prisoner guilty of manslaughter and he was sentenced to seven years' hard labour. The other prisoner was discharged.

EUROPEAN SENT TO PRISON.

ACCUSED OF STEALING ON A SAILED.

William Hill, a carpenter on board the sailing ship *Alidis*, was charged before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, this morning, with the theft of a quantity of copper and brass, the property of the ship, yesterday.

Accused pleaded not guilty to the charge. The copper and brass, he said, were removed during the course of his duty, from different parts of the ship as they were old and useless. Instead of throwing them overboard, as he had done on many occasions, he saved them up and disposed of them.

Captain Cummings valued the copper and brass at \$4. Yesterday afternoon, he stated, he saw accused selling the goods to a sampanman. Accused had no authority to dispose of anything belonging to the ship.

Accused—If I had thrown the brass overboard instead of selling it, would you have prosecuted me also?

Captain—Yes, decidedly.

His Worship—What sort of a character has accused?

Captain—A very good character. But I have been told before that he has been in the habit of selling the ship's property.

When is your vessel leaving?—In about three weeks' time.

Do you want the accused back on board?—Yes, I don't mind.

Accused was sent to goal for fifteen days with hard labour.

THE NEW RUSSO-JAPANESE TREATIES.

FURTHER DETAILS.

33rd inst.

The new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Japan and Russia, just published, consists of 18 articles, and remains in force for twelve months after notice of termination has been given by either party on July 17th, 1910. The terms of the Treaty are, generally speaking, identical with those of the old Treaty, with the exception of the following stipulations:—

(1)—That subjects of either of the signatories will enjoy in the domains of the other the right to inter or cruminate the campariote remains at places set aside for the purpose according to their own particular religious customs.

(2)—The assurance for the extension of rights relating to agricultural industry and the proprietorship of real estate.

(3)—It is agreed that a special Agreement will be made in regard to the recognition by either party of a certificate of survey of the capacity of steamers by the other.

(4)—It is agreed that the facilities for the discharge of Consular duties are substantiated, and Japanese officials carrying out diplomatic functions and Consulates in Russia will enjoy full liberty of inspection of books, newspapers, &c.

The provisions relating to settlements and perpetual leases of land in Japan and the consular trade of steamers in the old Treaty are cancelled.

By a special Agreement, Japan and Russia each retains the right of special trade and relations in Korea and certain other districts in the Far East, which are not to be applied to foreign trade generally.

By a protocol annexed to the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, the following are agreed:—The term of validity of a passport issued by the Japanese authorities and held by the Japanese subject to be approved by the Russian authorities will be six months from the date of issue; and in issuing or endorsing a passport for a Japanese going out of Russian territory, no higher charge than 50 kopeks will be collected.

It is agreed that the products and manufactures of the leased district in the Liaoning, which are imported overland across the Manchurian frontier, and the products and manufactures of the two Russian districts mentioned, which are imported overland into the leased district in Liaoning, will mutually enjoy the same treatment as products and manufactures of Manchuria in regard to all matters relating to the passing through the Customs and imposition of duty.

By a protocol relating to the establishment of Consulates, it is agreed that Japanese Consulates shall be established at Vladivostok and Nicolaievsk, and Russian Consulates at Tsushima and Korakoff.

The Fishing Treaty consists of 14 articles. In a protocol annexed thereto, inlets are specified where fishing by Japanese is prohibited for military reasons, and to a declaration of war, the Treaty is to be null and void.

SUSPECTED SUICIDE OF A FOREIGNER.

YOKOHAMA RESIDENT MISSING.

Yokohama, September 13.

Mr. C. L. Anderson, of the Yokohama branch of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., has disappeared. He left the office at 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning last and has not since been heard of. No reason can be assigned for his disappearance.

With reference to the disappearance of Mr. C. L. Anderson, of Yokohama, the following additional details appear in the *Japan Herald*:—For the last two days rumours have been circulating in town as to the disappearance of a foreign resident. Inquiries made confirmed the rumours, and this morning the missing man is being advertised for. The case is rather an extraordinary one.

Mr. C. L. Anderson came to Yokohama from Shanghai some time last year, being transferred from the Shanghai office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. to the office in Yokohama. Later he was joined by his mother and sister, the former returning to England only recently. Mr. Anderson, who was of a quiet disposition, was very generally liked and appeared to quickly adjust himself to the social life of Yokohama.

Last Tuesday morning, at 10 o'clock, he left the office, and was going out for a few minutes, and as far as his subsequent movements are concerned he might have vanished into the air. Absolutely no trace has been found of his movements from that hour. It may be mentioned that it was not a usual thing for Mr. Anderson to leave the office during office hours, and this would seem to point to some premeditated design. Wherever he went he must have passed through the streets of the Settlement, which at that hour would be full of people going to and from, and he must have been seen by some of his acquaintances. Information on this point would materially assist in the search.

Various conjectures have been made as to the cause of his strange action. Temporary mental aberration has led to many men being lost for some time, and it may be the case here, although Mr. Anderson displayed no signs on Tuesday morning of anything abnormal. It has also been suggested that he has been the victim of some plot, but this appears most improbable, taking into consideration the time he left the office.

It may here be stated that, as far as known, there was absolutely no reason for Mr. Anderson to take such a serious step as he appears to have taken. His employers were perfectly satisfied with his services, and personally he was held in high esteem.

Needless to say every effort is being made to trace his movements. The police have been furnished with photographs, all the country hotels have been telegraphed, and all the passenger lists of the shipping agents investigated. The natural supposition at first was that if Mr. Anderson had arranged to go away secretly, as all the evidence points to his having done—whether through mental aberration or otherwise—he would have gone on board a departing vessel. All the vessels leaving that day, however, going south and telegraphic investigations show that he was not on board. Another fact going against this theory, moreover, is that Mr. Anderson had no large sum of money in his pocket and had made absolutely no preparations. No doubt he had sufficient money to last him a few days, but not to pay for a steamship ticket.

Great sympathy will be felt for Miss Anderson in the painful and anxious position in which she is placed.

It will be remembered that it was reported on Wednesday night, on the arrival of the *Ryukyu Maru*, that a passenger, who gave his name as Anderson, had disappeared—it was believed, some time on Tuesday night.

ONCE A SHIP WENT SAILING.

THE GOOD SHIP JACOB DIETRICHSEN.

33rd inst.

The good ship *Jacob Dietrichsen* went sailing out to sea.

Her destined port a mystery as deep as deep could be.

And none could tell the object of this wondrous secret trip.

Till from the stealthy bounds of the Press the public got the tip.

And then 'twas blazoned broadcast, and published far and wide,

That should go "geographical" on the Eastern Borneo side.

The good ship *Jacob Dietrichsen* went sailing out to sea.

With expert mining engineer as smart as smart could be.

All sorts of wood travelled widely and were skilled in mining lore.

And "absolute mechanics" from canny Scotland's shore.

Now of this brilliant company, the cleverest of them all

(At least he always said so) was "darling little Paul."

The good ship *Jacob Dietrichsen* went sailing out to sea.

We trust they'll all be satisfied with what they've gone to sea;

And when to Hongkong once again in triumph they return,

We'll hope they've found a mountain of coal that's fit to burn.

But should it chance from reasons which I cannot here explain,

That the trip should be a failure—they can always try again.

—VOX POPULI in Straits Times.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The members and subscribers on the register for the year ending 31st August, 1907, number 208, thirty-four new members and three military subscribers having been elected during the year.

The report of the Yachting Committee will appear in the small book issued to yachting members.

Mr. H. Percy Smith who has served the Club as secretary and treasurer for two years resigned those offices on the 31st August last and Mr. G. G. Franklin has been elected honorary secretary and treasurer.

On the proposal of the Hon. Mr. F. H. May, the Commodore, in the chair, seconded by Major Broke, the general committee recommended that the best thanks of the Club be offered to Mr. Percy Smith for his services as secretary and treasurer for his donation of a cup.

REPORT OF THE BOAT COMMITTEE.

The sub-committee for boating report as follows:—

It is regretted that it was found to be impossible to hold a regatta of any sort during the last twelve months.

Four new four-oared and two new pair-oared boats with double girders out to correspond are being ordered in England; and Mr. A. Cruickshank has kindly assumed the responsibility of superintending their construction and despatch.

These boats are expected to arrive in December. Two older four-oared boats have been fitted with fixed seats, and it is proposed to hold a race for these boats towards the end of November.

Mr. Percy Smith has kindly presented a cup for a competition in pair-oared boats; the conditions will be published shortly.

The Victoria Recreation Club and the Corinthian Yacht Club are getting out from England similar boats to those ordered for this Club, and it is hoped to hold a combined regatta under the patronage of His Excellency the Governor, at the end of January next.

The committee, in conclusion, suggest that the meeting instruct the secretary to convey to Mr. Cruickshank their appreciation of his services as rowing captain and especially in designing and taking responsibility for the construction of the new boats.

THE NEW CLUB HOUSE, SHAU KWAN ROAD.

The reclamation of site was finished in April last.

A satisfactory contract for the building of the Club premises was let in May last.

Good progress has been made and the joists of the first floor are in position and good progress has been made with the brickwork above this level. But for the bad weather the brickwork would have been finished by the end of this month. I am of the opinion that the Club will have removed to the new premises before the end of 1907.

WATER POLO.

The water polo season was fairly successful although with the new blood in the team better things were expected, our position in the League being only fourth, the same as last year. With a better knowledge of the game next year we ought to do better.

Several friendly games were played with the Victoria Recreation Club, Corinthian Yacht Club, Royal Engineers, and Royal Garrison Artillery, which a year ago was a loss.

The team did very well indeed, losing only about two matches. There is plenty of material in it to fill up vacancies in the 1st next year.

The use of the Naval Dock for swimming was a great advantage, although permission was obtained rather late; altogether about 50 tickets were given out for admission to it.

The thanks of the Club are due to the Commodore and Mr. A. J. Williams of Messrs. Panchard, Lowther & Co. for their kindness in allowing as the use of the Dock.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The monthly competitions for the Robertson Farwell Cup was held at Happy Valley from the 21st to 23rd September, 1907. The following returns were made:—

Mr. Wm. Anderson 85 = 8-30
Mr. F. W. Warr 86 = 8-31
Mr. H. W. Slade 90 = 11-8
Mr. E. F. Mackay 91 = 3-38
(15 entries).

Mr. Wm. Anderson 85 = 8-30
Mr. F. W. Warr 86 = 8-31
Mr. G. M. Murray 92 = 12-80
Mr. E. F. Mackay 91 = 3-38
(15 entries).

Winner of Cup and Pool.

THE BURNING OF THE "TAROO MARU."

THE N. C. D. NEWS OF THE 20th INST. SAYS:—

Early yesterday morning the local office of the Nishin Kaisha Kaisha received a telegram from their agents at Chinkiang which stated that the *Taroo Maru* had been burnt. Later advice received in the course of the day stated that the fire broke out in the after part of the vessel when she was two miles below Silver Island. It spread rapidly, and owing to its proximity to the engine room it was impossible to use the fire pumps to advantage. The whole of the after part of the vessel was gutted, though it is stated that the masts were saved.

As is usual, immediately it was discovered that the vessel was on fire there was a panic amongst the native passengers. In a paroxysm of fear many of them threw themselves overboard, only to be carried away by the current and drowned. Captain Nagai, who is temporarily in command of the vessel, beached her as speedily as possible. The death toll was a very heavy one. Though no definite information has yet come to hand it is feared that over one hundred of the Chinese passengers, including the chief campdromes, of the vessel, were drowned or burnt to death, and two Japanese passengers are missing. There were only two foreign passengers on board, and they are believed to have been saved.

The flames were seen from Chinkiang, and the company's agent, with a number of launches, set out for the scene of the disaster. The *C. M. S. Kiangyue*, which left Shanghai about the same time as the *Taroo Maru*, was close to her when the fire broke out, and rendered what aid she could in taking off passengers from the burning vessel.

The Nishin Kaisha's Marine Superintendent and Mr. W. C. Palseo, Lloyd's surveyor at this port, left for Chinkiang by the *Tachi Maru* last night, and it was also believed that the Revenue cruiser *Liu Hsing* would leave for the scene of the conflagration during the night. No information has yet been received as to the cause of the fire. It was probably due, as usual, to carelessness on the part of one of the native passengers.

The ill-fated vessel had a singularly unfortunate career. Originally the *Taroo Maru*, she was burnt out two miles above Wuhu on January 27th, 1904, with the loss of several lives. She was raised and brought back to Shanghai by Captain MacDonnell and Mr. Strang a week or two later, and was then sold to the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. By this company she was reconstructed, lengthened thirty feet, and then resold to her present owners.

A telegram was received here yesterday, says the *N. C. D. News* of 20th inst., by Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co. from Mr. Palseo, Assistant Lloyd's Surveyor, who is at Chinkiang, as follows:—The superstructure of the *Taroo Maru* is burnt off over an extent of 250 feet. The hull is undamaged and the engines and boilers are all right. The vessel is fit to be towed to Shanghai and I recommend that this should be done. The tow-boat *Fukien* and *Santon* were dispatched from Shanghai last night by the Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company to tow the hull of the *Taroo Maru* to Shanghai, under the pilotage of Mr. J. Johns.

THE STORY OF A SURVIVOR.

A NIGHT OF TERROR.

The *N. C. D. News* of 20th inst. says:—The Rev. A. E. Rydberg of the Scandinavian Sailors' Home, Shanghai, with a passenger on board the *Taroo Maru*, together with the Rev. H. P. Shaw of the Foreign Christian Mission, at the time of the fire, and the story of his experiences, modestly related at a time when reaction from excitement and suffering was evident, shows what a terrible night was spent by all those who were on board the burning ship—a dark night made terrible by the flames and smoke of a burning ship, hideous by the yells of hundreds of half-crazed Chinese dashing up and down the deck and the loud cries of the sailors fighting for a place to a boat, then for room to swim in the water, or the struggle to obtain a hold of a plank or a rope.

The Rev. Rydberg recounted his experiences to a member of our staff, yesterday, while he was still, wearing borrowed clothes. The scratches made on his hands and throat by Chinese clutching him in a desperate attempt to save their lives were evident and he moved his stiffened arms with difficulty—the result of his exertions in the water.

THE ALARM.

The *Taroo Maru* left Shanghai at 4.30 a.m. Tuesday and everything went well until about 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning when sleepers were awakened by Chinese who reported that there was a fire in the box room under the steerage passengers' quarters. This fire originated through a man smoking a cigarette in the baggage hold. Immediately on the alarm being given there was great excitement and the majority of the Chinese passengers ran forward to avoid the flames and smoke. The hubbub was increased by these passengers trying to take their boxes and bedding with them, and had they not been made to put most of these articles in the galoon the crew could not have passed aft. The captain, officers and crew did all they could to stop the progress of the flames, but in vain. Fortunately there was a headland close by, and the destruction of the wooden ship would have been a matter of but a few minutes and another holocaust would have been recorded.

The uproar was added to by the ringing of the fire bell and the blowing of the steamers' whistle. These alarms were sounded as the *C. M. S. Kiangyue* was thought to be in the vicinity. The flames increased rapidly and the captain brought the ship to anchor about one boat's length from the left bank of the river, five miles below Chinkiang. In a short time a large Chinese junk hove in sight and she came alongside when hailed. The Chinese tried to swim into her, boxes, packages and all, but the junk people, having limited accommodation, considered human beings of more value than worldly goods, they took only passengers and carried away about 200 natives to a place of safety. This was about 1.45 a.m. and tried to get close to the burning vessel to take off the passengers, but she could not do this as the *Kiangyue* is a wooden ship and it was stated that the *Taroo* had keeled on board. The *Kiangyue*, therefore, let down her anchor a little way off.

The low ring of the boats.

A boat was then lowered with the chief officer on her, and Messrs. Shaw and Rydberg were requested to get into it, but at first they declined although they were afterwards persuaded to do so. Mr. Shaw, who had a lifebelt, however, soon got out again, but Mr. Rydberg was not so fortunate; the Chinese rushed into the boat and one man threw a box into her from the bridge and then leaped into the boat, capsized her, and all was soon struggling in a very strong current. The Chinese who were in the boat were drowned and Mr. Rydberg, believing he is the only one who was in the boat at the time who is now living. The lifeboat had turned bottom upwards, and Mr. Rydberg managed to take hold of her gunwale and raise himself on to the keel. Several Chinese then clambered on to the boat, and seeing she was sinking, Mr. Rydberg got clear and swam to the side of the *Taroo*, with several Chinese clinging to him. At the side of the steamer he seized a rope and hung on to it until a wooden beam was lowered into the water. All the time the Chinese passengers were jumping into the river, many being carried away by the current, managed to get a hold of the beam. The latter, however, turned over the water, and the Chinese clinging to it were drowned. The flames now reached that part of the steamer to which Mr. Rydberg was holding and so with the help of the beam which was floating near he managed to get away to the place where the lifeboat had capsized and, as she was fastened to the steamer by a rope, he was able to get the assistance of a boatman who got on to the bottom of the boat and then on to the *Taroo* again.

It was a case of out of the water into the fire. I jumped right into the fire, said Mr. Rydberg, "but luckily my clothes were very wet and I had thick boots on. I ran to the other end of the boat and found Mr. Shaw was on the other side helping to rescue Chinese who had jumped into the water. He had swum ashore."

At this time the scene on and around the *Taroo* was a terrible one. There was no water supply and the only hose was said to be in the engine room. Panic reigned amongst the Chinese passengers. They were running about hither and thither in their excitement, carrying their goods and scrambling over each other. Some desperately yelled for help, but how hopeless was their cry! Many Chinese did not know what they were doing. The first thing they thought of was to save their possessions. "There was one man," said Mr. Rydberg, "who, when in the water with me, lost his life trying to save his goods. It was a horrible sight; the worst sight in the world. When I was trying to swim I tried to seize me and scratched my hands and arms; some held my legs. One man took hold of my throat and nearly choked me, others held me by the legs and one was on my body." The current was running about eight miles an hour and it was impossible to swim against the flow. The steamer because of the current, while the fire

THE HONGKONG TRAGEDY.

ADETT'S EXTRADITION.

EVIDENCE AGAINST THE PRISONER.

The Manila *Cablenews*, of 18th inst., says:—
W. H. Adsett was arraigned before Judge Gilbert yesterday afternoon to show cause why he should not be extradited to Hongkong, and, although Attorney L. M. Southworth who was looking after Adsett's interests intended to present his claim from being extradited if possible, it is believed that the prosecution has the stronger case and that the hearing will be concluded to-day when Judge Gilbert will probably render his decision.

The court-room was filled with an interested, and, in some cases, prominent business men and brokers, crowd-keepers, men about town, several men prominent in church work, and a scattering of women, friends of Gertrude Dayton, and members of her circle, all curious to get a glimpse of the man suspected of the crime.

Adsett was called to the stand and displayed an air of bravado, although nervous and confused. When asked why he did not protest against his arrest, he said he did and received a "smash in the mouth" for his reply, referring to his capture in China. When asked why he did not protest in Manila he said for fear of a repetition of the China affair, and that also because he had been ordered by the captain of the *Galveston* to "keep his mouth shut," and that his seven years' service in the army and navy had taught him to obey orders.

Adsett attempted to deceive the court by saying that he was held by member of the local police department while the handcuffs of the naval authorities were replaced by those of the Manila authorities, but after a short, severe cross-examination by Prosecuting Attorney George the prisoner suddenly got a bad lapse of memory.

Three witnesses were examined and the steamship tickets, purchased by Adsett under the name of Jones, for himself and the Dayton women were identified and put in evidence, as well as the ticket purchased by Gertrude Dayton for transportation to the States.

Detectives Sullivan and Perkins of the Hongkong secret service bureau did not arrive yesterday as expected but will probably be able to give testimony at to-day's session, which was continued from yesterday until 8 o'clock this morning.

19th Sept.

The attorneys for W. H. Adsett are resorting to every means and straining every effort to avoid his extradition despite the fact that habeas corpus proceedings were denied by the court during the first day's examination. Realizing that there is some little hope of having Adsett retained in Manila and thereby delaying extradition, Attorney Southworth called on Prosecuting Attorney George at a late hour yesterday and served him with a notice of appeal from the habeas corpus decision of Judge Gilbert. In his appeal Adsett states that he is dissatisfied with the action of the court in refusing to grant his discharge, takes exception to the order remanding him to the custody of the police, and appeals therefore to the Supreme Court of the Philippines Islands. At first Mr. George refused to accept service of the appeal, because the time limit of twenty-four hours since the petition had been denied had expired. He accepted service, however, but made a note of the time of service after calling Mr. Southworth's attention to the hour.

The chances of Adsett being able to avoid extradition are now believed to be slim indeed. Two officers of the law from the British colony of Hongkong are expected this morning. They will be armed with the extradition papers charging the accused with the murder of Gertrude Dayton at Hongkong. Upon the arrival of the officers they will proceed to the court for the purpose of examination, after which the court will make its decision and forward the papers in the case to the Governor-General for final disposition. The officers will then present their warrants to the chief executive in whose hands the case will rest and whose action will practically determine the fate of the man.

The examination of witnesses in the case was continued yesterday. There was considerable discussion in relation to points of law on the admission of evidence, also as to the rules of admitting secondary evidence. This was found necessary when taking the testimony of Detective Guertin, who was in Hongkong at the time of the murder, and also of the officers of the *Galveston* who knew of some of the facts connected with the apprehension of Adsett at Chefoo and of the property of the deceased which was found on board.

Jaymaster Hancock of the *Galveston* being sworn said that Adsett had a preliminary hearing in China before the U.S. Consular Court. All the jewelry and other property found in possession of the accused had been delivered to witness on board the *Galveston* by the United States Consul-General at Chefoo. Mr. Hancock identified the jewelry as that delivered to him in China. He also identified the records of the proceedings of the United States consular court in China, observing that they were properly stamped and sealed and that the official transfer or order of Adsett to Manila was among them.

May Norman, the next witness, identified Miss Dayton's jewelry and silver toilet set and was allowed to go without cross-examination. Detective Charles Guertin said he was in Hongkong at the time of the murder and saw the clothing of the woman. Some question arose over statement made by him to the effect that he had seen the name of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Jones on the register of the Hongkong Hotel. The court held that as it was impossible to produce the register this secondary evidence was admitted. Guertin stated also that a man answering the description of Adsett had taken passage from Hongkong by the *Tosa Maru*.

Louis Heymann was then called and testified that he had met Adsett together with Miss Dayton at the Pearly Country Club.

C. W. O'Brien, who was called next, said that he had been introduced to Adsett as Mr. Anderson. The manager of the Hotel Francis was called and testified that Adsett and Gertrude Dayton were guests of the hotel prior to their leaving for Hongkong.

This concluded the testimony that can be taken until the arrival of the Hongkong detectives, who are expected to-day.—*Manila American*.

20th Sept.

If circumstantial evidence counts with the Hongkong jury that will sit, in the Adsett case, the accused's fate is sealed, and no other verdict than guilty can be rendered.

Evidence is being brought out at each day's session of the court that points more and more to Adsett as the murderer of Gertrude Dayton, and the deposition of the quartermaster of the steamship *Montangle* who received the trunk containing the body of the murdered woman, describes Adsett precisely as the man who accompanied the trunk to the ship and insisted that it be placed in the hold immediately. It was taken aboard.

This deposition was given yesterday, and the guilt of Adsett is doubted by no one. At least the man who was delivered the trunk on board the *Montangle* says so.

Detectives Edward O'Sullivan and T. Perkins arrived in Manila yesterday on the steamer *Rubi* and brought with them three witnesses, one being T. Oxberry, the runner of the Hongkong hotel, and A. R. Soonderam, a clerk of the same hotel. These two identified Adsett as the man who arrived in Hongkong in company with the Dayton woman and who lived with her at the Hongkong hotel under the name of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Jones.

In addition to the arrival of these witnesses the *Rubi* also brought the formal request from the governor-general of Hongkong for the extradition of Adsett, which settles a dispute that has existed between the attorneys in the case, Attorney Southworth holding that the prisoner could not possibly be delivered to the Hongkong detectives without a formal request from the governor.

The case did not start yesterday until eleven o'clock as the court preferred to wait until the arrival of the Hongkong witnesses, who were at the time court opened on board the *Rubi* in the bay. As soon as they arrived Detective Sullivan was put on the witness stand and identified 17 depositions, among which were the statement of the quartermaster of the *Montangle* who received the trunk, the Chinese coolies who carried it from the hotel to the ship, the merchant from whom the trunk had been purchased, but which afterwards evidently proved too small. The new trunk was found in the room debauched with blood showing that the murderer had first tried to jam the body in it, and failing in this he had emptied one of the murdered woman's own trunks, which was extra large, and had used this instead of the new one.

Many other depositions were read and each succeeding one seemed to twine more firmly the rope of execution around the murderer's neck.

Although it has been the general impression that the murder and the disposition of the body was conducted in a manner showing considerable cunning, and that but for the terrible stench which came from the trunk before the ship left Hongkong harbour, causing investigation and discovery the murder would not have been discovered until the ship arrived in Seattle, it developed at the deposition that the murderer bungled in his plan. First, he did not ascertain which of the many ships in the harbour at the time he could ship the trunk on, with the result that his actions excited some suspicion when after he had applied for and been refused transportation for the trunk on the steamer *Singon*, he asked that it be sent to Sydney, Australia, on the *Chinglu*, and this being denied him he took the trunk to the *Montangle*, consigned to Seattle.

This fact was brought out in the deposition of Herbert Wade Kent, clerk in the office of Butterfield and Swire, shipping agents. Mr. Kent said that he knew something was wrong as the man appeared over-anxious to get rid of the trunk and not care in which direction it was shipped, so long as he got rid of it. He meant to make a personal investigation, but the body was discovered before he could do so.

This shows that the murderer was evidently nervous and excited, and would probably have been discovered even had the trunk been better concealed, permitting no smell to escape.

Another mistake in covering up his tracks was the murderer's haste to receive a trunk on the morning of the crime. He selected one that afterwards proved too small, resulting in his being compelled to leave the newly-purchased trunk, drenched with blood showing that an attempt had been made to force the corpse into it, in the room where the crime was committed, giving the detectives another clue as to the identity of the murderer, as they traced the place where the trunk had been purchased and described a description of the purchaser from the man who sold the trunk. His description tallied with Adsett in every detail.

The prisoner was in better spirits yesterday than any day since his arrival, and wore a collar and black string tie, making a decided change for the better in his appearance.

His good spirits are attributed to the assurance of his attorneys who claim that if he is sent to Hongkong at all it will not be until after the Supreme Court of the United States has heard the case, which, in all probability would be two years from now. Adsett is evidently content to remain in jail in Manila, and knows that as soon as he reaches Hongkong his time on this earth will be short.

The Hongkong authorities have selected the men to conduct the prisoner back to China; and it is said that no two better men are in the service. Sergeant Sullivan has been on the police force of Hongkong over twelve years and has an excellent record. Perkins, the other detective, is also a good man. When asked if he was familiar with the threats Adsett had made he replied that he was, and said, "I whipped him once in a fight, and am able to repeat the feat if necessary." Detective Perkins who has a prize-fighter's career, referred to a boxing match he had with Adsett some time ago when he knocked out Adsett in less than three rounds.

Detective Sullivan, in speaking of the crime, said it was one of the most cold-blooded ever committed in Hongkong by a white man. He was present when the trunk was opened and described the position of the body when found. It was jammed in the trunk, lying on the head pushed back almost under the back, the knees drawn up to the chin. The murder was committed by strangling the woman with her own waist band, the murderer using a hair-brush as a tourniquet to make stronger the pressure of the band. This was still around the woman's neck when the body was found.

Another proof of the cold manner in which the murderer committed the crime was the fact that after the crime had been committed the mattress on the bed had been turned to hide the blood stains, and with the dead woman lying beside him, covered with a sheet, the murderer rang for a hall boy and ordered a cup of coffee, drinking this while the boy stood beside the bed, and in reply to the boy's question if the lady cared for a cup of coffee the murderer replied that she was sleeping. Detective Sullivan believes that this was not done for effect but because the murderer was a determined criminal.

It was reported last night that through a misunderstanding the attorneys for the defence failed to file an appeal in the habeas corpus proceedings in the case until after the time for such an appeal had expired, and that any chances of prolonging the case longer than the hearing in the extradition proceedings consume are lost, which means that the prisoner will be delivered to the Hongkong authorities without delay.

The case was continued until 10 o'clock this morning.—*Cablenews*.

ADETT'S IN HONGKONG.

ARRAIGNED AT THE MAGISTRACY.

PLEADS "NOT GUILTY" TO THE CAPITAL.

CHARGE.

24th inst.

Adsett, the alleged murderer of Gertrude Dayton, whose body was discovered jammed in a trunk aboard the C. T. R. liner *Montangle* in August last, under circumstances so well known to the Hongkong public, whose escape from the Colony on the *Tosa Maru*

shortly after the tragedy, his arrival and disappearance from Shanghai, his capture and re-capture at Chefoo, after breaking away from the gaol, his removal to Manila on the U.S. ship *Galveston*, and the opening of extradition proceedings against him at that port have been so closely followed by the "mass in the street," landed in Hongkong last night from the steamer *Rubi*, in charge of Detective O'Sullivan and I. O. Perkins.

The *Rubi* steamed up to her moorings shortly after eight o'clock last night, and from her masthead, shone forth the police-call lights brilliantly. A police launch, with Chief Detective Inspector Hanson, Inspector Warnock, Sergeants Terrett and Eames and Policeman Wait on board, which had been waiting in the vicinity for the arrival of the *Rubi*, put Adsett ashore from the steamer at the pier, handcuffed, his legs shackled, was escorted down the gangway and on to the launch.

A large crowd had assembled on Blake pier when the launch warped alongside. And when the alleged murderer landed on the pier the police had some difficulty in keeping back the crowd which was pushing its way to the fore, all eager to catch a glimpse of the man, of whom they had heard so much.

Adsett was not to be seen, however. Dressed in a dark blue suit, frilled at the ends, and a half-soiled single, wearing a Panama hat, turned down in front, covering his forehead, he walked up the pier with his head bowed low, puffing vigorously at a cigarette, regardless of the hundreds of pairs of eyes that were focussed at him. He was conducted to a chair that was awaiting him and the journey to police headquarters started, the crowd following in procession.

At the Central Station Adsett was taken aboard Inspector Ritchie, who asked him a few questions.

"What's your name?" was the first question put to Adsett.

"William Hall Adsett," came the reply in a coarse voice.

"What are you by occupation," was the next query.

"A tinsmith," Adsett answered, looking amused.

"What State were you born?"

"Philadelphia," with a drawl.

And with that Adsett was taken to a cell, minus his handcuffs, but with his ankles still on, there to pass the night.

Needless to say, when it is told that Adsett was held in irons on board ship, nothing of any exciting character occurred. But notwithstanding that fact Detective O'Sullivan and Policeman Perkins kept a strict watch over their prisoner, so much so that during the trip Adsett had scarcely any time for sleep. Both officials speak highly of the conduct of Captain Almond and his officers, who showed them every attention while they were on board the *Rubi*.

Adsett is a large, rawboned, muscular looking man, about six feet tall, and with light brown hair. He has very prominent teeth in the upper jaw, which are very prominent. He seems to be more or less calloused through his varied experiences during the past six weeks and tries to be stoically calm.

He thought his arrest did not prey on his mind, but it is belied by the restless and wild looks in his eyes. He appeared non-plussed in the charge-room it was not so a few minutes later, for when once in his cell he wore his disguise once more, and tried to be communicative. He called for water, which was given him; he spoke of the trip and of the newspapers, and complained, in no few words, of the severe pains round his ankles, which was caused by the leg irons, and which, he said, he had worn for a month. Then he switched on to his escape at Chefoo. Speaking to an official of his escape from the Chefoo gaol, Adsett remarked that any man, under such circumstances, would have done the same as he did, when there was a hole in the roof of the prison.

As he was about to go into details regarding his escape another police officer, dressed in plain clothes, approached his cell. Adsett gave him a wink and tried to say more, but he was cut off by the officer, who said, "That's all right, you can talk to anyone else." That's all right, you can talk to anyone else, but he had a lot of things to say about me," fell back and went asleep. He refused to say another word.

This morning he appeared to be in a more cheerful frame of mind. He sat at the door of his cell, his knees bent under his chin, and seemed to be very interested in the corralling of the Chinese prisoners for the police court.

"How is it, this morning?" a police officer asked him.

"All I want is a bath," he replied, "and I'd be happy. I haven't had one for some time."

Somebody from the Detective's office was next to attract his attention. Adsett noticed that a policeman was studying his face with a photograph, which he held in his hand.

"That's a fine picture you have there of me," he bawled out. "Let's see?"

The picture was turned in his direction. "Who's the woman?" he interrogated.

"The woman you took the photograph with," was the reply.

Adsett had a hearty laugh and turned away. When the news got around in the forenoon that the prisoner would soon appear in Court the crowd—for there was a large crowd of Europeans and Chinese present—besieged the Court, all anxious to get on him, or any person taking an obscure part in the trial. By the time Adsett was escorted into the dock there was scarcely standing room in the Court, even the Court to answer the indictment there was scarcely a sound in the court-room.

"William Hall Adsett," rang out the interpreter, "you are charged, that you did on the 4th August, 1907, feloniously and of malice aforethought kill and slay one Gertrude Dayton against the peace of our Sovereign, his Crown and dignity. What say you to the charge—guilty or not guilty?"

"Not guilty," answered the prisoner in a strong voice.

Inspector Hanson—"The police want a week's remand, your Worship."

Mr. Melbourne—"I am afraid I can't give you next week."

Inspector Hanson—"What is the first day?"

Mr. Melbourne—"I have Monday next week, but I don't know when you will be ready."

Inspector Hanson—"The Crown Solicitor will prosecute, your Worship."

The next hearing was fixed for Monday afternoon.

And Adsett, looking restless, with a vacant stare in his eyes, his cheeks sunken, and his face ashen, was removed to the Victoria Gaol there to await his trial—the trial which will prove one of the most interesting that has ever been heard in a Court in this Colony.

A WORD PICTURE.

Adsett, the alleged slayer of a courtesan, might in his present state of development and, under happier conditions, be passed by the unobservant as an average young man of the middle-class, with some claims to an attraction that would exercise its powers in a circle which fits from dark till dawn in the isolated glow of the red-light district.

But to the phenologist, the alienist, even if the present cloud did not darken his horizon, the man would present a study worthy of attention, writes Mr. John Roberts in the *Manila Cablenews*. In the case of a man under

sentence, a man convicted, the crowded, stifling courtroom, whether it be in the East or West, whether the prisoner stands in the shadow of Billibill, San Quentin or Sing Sing, presents the same curious throng as with wonder and morbid curiosity. Correlated to the ordinary onlooker, the criminal stands for crime; but to the student of degrees, the actual suspension of the power to do means simply the lack of further opportunity. Opportunity, temptation sufficiently worth the risk, this gives the crowd a chance in push and sweat and stand patiently for hours in order to witness the anguish, bravado, or indifference of the offender.

The head of this man at the bar of justice awaiting a terrible doom if proven guilty of the most revolting of murders, is not the one of a crafty, methodical villain. It is small with clear, almost entirely unclouded, and keenly shining eyes, the head or skull shows the usage of the mental faculties would go to the wall at once when judging of the smooth surface of this man's cranium.

No use of the special functions which have left such valuable records in the Rogues' Gallery is responsible for the fullness of the jaw, the heaviness of lip, the dull, sullen light that flashes from out of the prominent blue eyes. These features, say, toward the weak, the left eye, shining with the light of an unbridled will, with the dominance of passions that know no restraint. And here, lies the whole story.

The bungling, the stupidity, these traits, uncertain facts of evidence point toward the irresolute, staring eye of the man in the dock, and while they alone cannot convict him, they stand as signposts at the crossroads of innocence and guilt. The stinging forehead, the square, shining jaw, the keen, penetrating eyes, the dominating the whole physiognomy, these plot and plan and cheat the galleys; these conceal with infinite care every trace and baffle the sleuths on the scent of the red-handed. But these do not belong to this man Adsett alias Jones.

Even if there is no murder to his count, "and none but the Master shall blame," the history of the close kinship with the bewilderment, the creatures of the underworld, the loss of the human look, the square jaw, the loss of the appreciation of cleaner things, these are all there in a sum total or moral bankruptcy.

This man's career and, perhaps his ending, might be the case of any other soldier or marine with a weak chin, the thick, heavy lips of indulgence. "Where there ain't no ten commandments," is written all over him; the free, easy gait of the Orient is in every line of the elastic, swagging figure.

This is the face of a criminal of chance, accident, opportunity, not of the hereditary law, the doom, almost from birth, these are all there in a sum total or moral bankruptcy.

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that if he decided to make any trouble it will not be until after he is placed in their keeping.

BAR-ROOM STORIES.

Many are the stories of the bar-room brawls and rough house fights Adsett has taken a prominent part in. When he was in the marine corps and stationed at Cavite he took exception to the rolling of an umpire during a baseball game between his company and a company of marines from Olongapo and despite the fact that the umpire was a man fully six feet tall, Adsett struck him one blow sending him unconscious for over an hour and splintered his jaw. Shortly afterwards he was set upon by a crowd of about nine angry baseball players during a game at Olongapo and single handed he came out of the fight no worse than any one of his eight or nine assailants, two of whom were injured so severely that it was necessary to carry them to the hospital. He is known along the China coast as a bad man many are the tales of his single handed fights with sailors from foreign ships.

That he will take long chances to escape, and that he will grow more desperate as the time carries him nearer his goal there is no doubt, and realizing this fact Police Sergeant F. O'Sullivan, who will be responsible for his safe deliverance to the Hongkong authorities, will guard him day and night and keep him tightly manacled. Once in Hongkong, with such a complete chain of convincing evidence, W. H. Adsett, alias Jones, alias Anderson, alias Davis will probably be punished with death in less than two weeks as is the custom of the British authorities in such cases.

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THE NEW VICEROY.

LANDING AT CANTON.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY PROBLEM.
[From a Correspondent.]

CANTON, 21st September.
At briefly reported to you, by telegram, to-day, H.E. Viceroy Chang Jen-chuo, the newly-appointed representative of H. I. M. the Emperor in the Southern capital, arrived here this morning on board the C. M. S. N. Co's s.s. *Tai Shan* from Shanghai via Hongkong. The steamer was escorted to Canton by several Chinese gunboats and Government launches, and entered the harbour amidst the booming of guns. The Prefect of Kwangchow, Chao Mong Tsang, and the two magistrates of the districts of Nankai and Panyu, proceeded early this morning to Whampoa to meet H.E. there and accompanied him into the city. Arriving safely here H.E. landed this forenoon at about ten o'clock at the Tientsin Wharf, where he was received by the Provincial Treasurer, the Acting Provincial Judge, the Provincial Examiner and the Salt Commission, the Tatar Generals and many other officials both civil and military. At Whampoa H.E. also paid a call on the Admiral and Commander-in-Chief, Chun Ping-chik. H.E. and family will not take up a temporary residence at any place, but will proceed straight to the Viceroy's quarters, where everything is in readiness for his reception.

H.E. Viceroy Chang has issued a red proclamation notifying the public that he will take over the duties of his office on the 1st of the 10th instant, as Viceroy of the Liang Kwang Provinces.

CONFERENCES WITH CHANG CHIH-TUNG.
When H.E. Chang, of Canton, arrived at Hankow, he had an interview with H.E. Viceroy Chang Chih-tung of the Hu Kwang Provinces. This conference lasted for several hours during which a variety of subjects were discussed, especially matters in connection with the Canton-Hankow railway.

At Shanghai, H.E. also had a conference with the Canton-Hankow Railway shareholders there in regard to the working, etc. of this line. H.E.'S INITIAL MOVE.
It is understood that H.E. Chang's first step in initiating his administration of the government of the two provinces, will be to thoroughly investigate the Yuet Han Railway question. It is to be hoped that the petty bickering will soon be removed and the construction and working of the railway will be put under a proper and satisfactory board of directors.

JAPANESE STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

RUMOUR OF INCORPORATION OF THE N.Y.K. AND T.K.K.

In reviewing the present position of steamship companies in Japan, the *Osaka Asahi* remarks that the tonnage of Japanese steamships, which stood at 701,000 tons at the end of 1904, has increased by about two fifths during the last two years and a half, and now stands at about 1,100,000 tons. This has resulted in a heavy excess of bottoms over demand, and has been responsible for a marked decline in Japanese and Far Eastern waters. But the increase has not been shown in freight and passengers in proportion to the increase of tonnage, and naturally enough, keen competition has ensued among steamship companies, resulting in a decline of freight-rates. Pressed by the losses in business under these conditions, the incorporation of individual steamship owners into a company under the style of the Japan Steamship Company was undertaken. The commercial and financial success of the proposed company was, however, felt to be doubtful, and the scheme collapsed.

The working of even the more prominent steamship companies, such as the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and Toyo Kisen Kaisha, is found to be very unsatisfactory. It is known that the working of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha for the last two periods, and of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and Toyo Kisen Kaisha for the last business period, has resulted in some loss, and it is feared that the result may be the same for the present period. The Osaka paper goes on to say that unlike business on land, the shipping business has to meet with peculiar and keener competition, and so it is less lucrative than business on land, as may be seen in Europe and America. Until recent years, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was able to make a good profit on account of a bounty granted by the Government, and also because of the comparatively limited supply of bottoms in the Far East. Lately the company has been placed in a very trying position through the strong competition resulting from the great increase in bottoms without a corresponding increase in freight and passengers. It is stated that, in view of the unsatisfactory result of its South American service and other circumstances, the Toyo Kisen Kaisha has proposed to incorporate with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and Mr. Asano, president of the company, is said to be conducting negotiations in person.

The success of the negotiations cannot be predicted as yet, but the term of the grant to the Government subsidy to the Toyo Kisen Kaisha expires in two years, and the contract with the South Pacific Railway Company for the connection of service also expires at the end of the present year. If the incorporation of the two large companies is successfully negotiated, it may relieve in some degree the present trying position of the steamship business in Japan. —*Japan Chronicle*.

A PRACTICAL JOKE.

COOLIE AND DISTRICT WATCHMAN FOOLED.

A very amusing story comes from West Point. Last Sunday afternoon, a District watchman met a coolie on the Pinya West carrying a bag on his shoulder.
"What have you in that bag?" he asked, stopping the coolie.
"Rice," was the reply.
"From where did you get it?" demanded the watchman.
"I paid \$1.00 for it," answered the coolie.
"Then come along with me and show me the person who sold it to you." The coolie could not, and he was taken to No. 7 Police Station, where he told another story to Inspector Collett. A man met him in the street, he said, and engaged him to carry the bag as far as the Central Market. There he would meet a woman, who would give him three cents, and he was to give her the bag.
The inspector ordered the bag to be opened, and to the astonishment of everyone present, especially the coolie and the watchman, who saw visions of a case, the contents of the bag were discovered to be sand and stones! Some one had played a trick on the coolie and the District watchman. L. d. tumbled into it too. The watchman disappeared from the station by one door, the coolie by another, amidst great laughter, each merrily laughing to himself words, which in the circumstances, had better be left to the imagination than recorded.

HONGKONG COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

APPOINTMENT OF RECTOR.

THE HON. MR. MAY RE-ELECTED.

A combined meeting of the general Council and students of the Hongkong College of Medicine, which was postponed from last Wednesday, was held in the Legislative Council Chamber on Monday afternoon, for the purpose of electing a Rector.

His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard presided. There were also present—Mr. F. H. May (Colonial Secretary), Dis. J. C. Thomson, Francis Clark, R. MacLean Gibson, V. M. Koch, Ho Kai, G. M. Hamilton, J. W. Noble, C. M. Healey, W. B. A. Moore, Kwan King Leung, Wong Sai Yan, Ho Nai Hop, Ho K. T. Sun, H. S. Ho, Au See Chan, Ma Lok, To Ying Kwan, Chung Yik Sun, Ho Nai Tsau, Kwan King Hung and Mr. A. H. Crook.

His Excellency said that it gave him great pleasure to preside for the first time as president of the Hongkong College of Medicine. There was a no time, he said, for speech-making, the business being to re-elect Mr. May as Rector of the College. Mr. May for the last five years had given much time and thought to the College, and it was not unusual for him to be standing again for re-election.

Dr. Ho Kai remarked that, being the senior member of the Council of the College and the oldest member of the general Council, it gave him great pleasure to propose the re-election of the Hon. Mr. F. H. May to be the rector of the College for a further term of five years. To secure the unanimous vote he had very little to say, as Mr. May was well known to them all, for during the time he occupied the rectorial chair he had been active, energetic and saw to the welfare and interest of the College. He said he did not speak with the idea of flattery or to offer undue compliments, but having had over twenty years' experience with the institution he was bound to say that Mr. May had done just as much work as his illustrious predecessors, and that during the past five years under his great progress had been made, and very soon the College would be established under a more permanent basis. Thanks to the generosity of the Government and Mr. Ng Li Fung, the College will have permanent quarters of its own, and under the circumstances Mr. May will be supported by the Council and the public, and with his guidance he (the speaker) was certain the College would be placed on a higher level. But notwithstanding the great energy displayed by Mr. May, nothing could be accomplished without the help of the students. Dr. Ho Kai reminded them that by coming to the meeting to-day, hearing the speeches, and dispersing was not doing their duty. They should use all their endeavour in supporting him and the Council in getting up an endowment fund to enable improvements to be carried out and to put the College on a better basis. (Applause.)

Dr. Ho Kai then proposed the re-election of the Hon. Mr. F. H. May as Rector of the College. The Hon. Mr. F. H. May seconded. This proposal was supported by Mr. Wong Chung Yik.

Carried unanimously.
Mr. May said that he was deeply sensible of the honour done him in re-electing him. He appreciated it all, especially the terms Dr. Ho Kai submitted. He appreciated still more the honour as it was at a time when the College was on the turning point in its career. (Applause.) It is indeed a great honour to be re-elected, and he (the speaker) had received him of the past in the work of the College had to be conducted under great disability—there being not a roof to cover them and no money in their pockets. A year ago the College had the good fortune to inherit a windfall representing some \$100,000, and lately, through Mr. Ng Li Fung, they would have a sufficient sum to have a permanent building in which education could be more fittingly carried on. He reminded those present, and also the public, that a building was not sufficient without an endowment. Hitherto, the education in the College was carried on through the generosity of the medical men in the Colony, who gave up their spare time and skill, with no remuneration. Only in recent years the Government made a grant to offer them a honorarium, but it was so slight that it was not worth mentioning. What the College wanted, continued Mr. May, was permanent lecturers who could devote all their time to lecturing on the theory and practice of medicine, and who must have money. "I am not going to make any appeal to you," the speaker said, smilingly, "so you need not look at me so seriously." The appeal was to that generous Hongkong public. At present was no time for the appeal to be made. The Hongkong public has never been appealed to in vain, and he did not think their appeal would be without success. (Applause.) For many years the Council held a view, that before long there would be a great five college, where good education could be obtained, and their students entered in the medical register of the Colony. That view, Mr. May hoped, would be realized before he left the Colony. In thanking those present for his re-election, Mr. May concluded that he could not do much for them in the past, but he hoped to do more in the future—and that would give him a great pleasure in life.

Dr. Koch proposed a vote of thanks for the Governor.

His Excellency returned thanks, and the meeting concluded.

THE SIAMSE ARMY.

We learn that the commanders of the different regiments stationed in the various months of Siam, will in future have to attend an annual conference which is to be held at the War Office in Bangkok, to discuss military matters. His step is considered most expedient as a means of military discipline and of organising the army on modern lines. We understand that this initiative has been taken in connection with the new military system which is now enforced in various months of the country. Of recent years the Siamese army has been considerably "licked into shape," and this general discipline and organization of forces stationed in the various months shows much more a discipline on the part of the authorities. The men are better paid, better looked after, equipped and disciplined than ever, and in doing with the new military law in force, we may expect to see still greater improvement. There is also talk of organising a more efficient gendarmerie throughout the country, and for obvious reasons this work should meet with general approbation. After all a well organized gendarmerie is more important for Siam than a big standing army. Throughout the length and breadth of the country there is need for such a military body to afford security for life and property. While we appreciate the condition of the peasantry would be greatly improved and the development of industry and trade would increase in proportion.

It is to be hoped, therefore, that annual meetings of Military Commanders of the various months will result in bringing about such a desirable state of affairs and thus contribute in a great measure to the growing prosperity of the kingdom and the peace and security of the inhabitants. —*Siam Free Press*.

WUCHOW NOTES.

IMPORTANT SHIPPING CASE.

Wuchow, 20th September, 1907.

A case of considerable importance to shipping firms on the West River has occurred by the s.s. *Saiman* bringing up some cargo from Fong Chuen, to Wuchow. Fong Chuen is about 20 miles below Wuchow and is only recognized, according to the Customs officials, as a "Passenger Stage," and as such is considered a closed port, and no cargo can be landed or shipped there by foreign vessels. The *Saiman* last week, it is alleged, picked up some cargo at this place and brought it on to Wuchow. There was no attempt at smuggling at all; the goods shipped were correctly manifested. The Customs Authorities hold that the *Saiman* committed a breach of regulations in trading to a closed port and was subject to a substantial fine in addition to which the cargo shipped was liable to confiscation. No decision has yet been given in the above matter as some rather complex points are likely to be raised in connection with this case. The decision, when given, will be of paramount interest owing to the establishing of a precedent.

REFUGEES.

The disturbance in the Yum-chow district has resulted in the influx of a large number of refugees to Wuchow via Nanning. All the Nanning boats have, of late, had more than their full complement of passengers, some of whom give some interesting reports on the present state of affairs in Yum-chow. It appears that the trouble is anti-official, but not anti-dynastic, and that the rebels have enlisted all the "bad characters" in the district who are marauding and pillaging the homes of respectable Chinese folk who will not contribute funds to their campaign. As a result of this black-mail, those who can are making desperate attempts to get out of the troubled zone and taking refuge in Nanning. The rebels have Chinese folk who have reached Wuchow complain bitterly of the inadequate protection accorded them by the officials, and state that the present threat will spread over the Kwangsi province unless the rebels are promptly checked and suppressed.

RISE OF RIVER.

An abnormal rise of the river, for this time of year, is being experienced just now. Until five days ago the river was so low that preparations had been made to lay down the buoys to mark the winter channels. On the 16th inst. the river commenced to rise slowly and kept steadily on. The rise to date is over 40 feet and the river is still rising, though slowly. The cause of the present rise is attributed to the river Liao Ho being in flood. This river is situated just below Kwai-yuen. Another 15 feet will see Wuchow flooded, but it is to be hoped that the water will recede in a day or two. As it is, boatbuilders on the foreshore have had a bad time of it. As is usual at this time of year, they constructed their mats on the foreshore for building purposes and had finished to boats when the river rose. In a couple of days they were flooded out and their workshops and materials washed away. Chinese-like, they made no attempt to save anything until the last possible moment and hence lost more than they need have done. The weather this past week has been very squally accompanied by plenty of rain. The barometer on the 15th showed 29.4 and quite a gale was experienced here. Luckily no serious damage or casualties are known of. The weather just now is delightful and it appears as if the long summer is over.

VOLUNTEER CORPS ORDERS.

ALL UNITS.

At headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Monday, the 23rd instant, for infantry drill. Sergt. Downes, 3rd Middlesex Regt., will attend.

RECRUITS' DRILL.

At headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 24th instant, for infantry drill. Sergt. Downes, 3rd Middlesex Regt., will attend.

ARTILLERY UNITS.

At headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 25th instant, for 15-pounder B.L. gun drill. Sergt. Windsor, R.G.A., will attend.

At headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Friday, the 27th instant, for Maxim gun drill. Sergt. Windsor, R.G.A., will attend.

ENGINEER COMPANY.

At West Fort, Kowloon, at 9 p.m. on Wednesday, the 25th instant, for technical instruction.

TALKING DETACHMENT.

At Gai-koon at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, the 26th instant, for gun drill. Sergt. White, R.G.A., will attend.

N. C. O.'S CLASS.

At headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Monday, the 23rd instant, for infantry drill. Sergt. Downes, 3rd Middlesex Regt., will attend.

At headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 24th instant, for 15-pounder B.L. gun drill. Sergt. White, R.G.A., will attend.

At headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 25th instant, for Maxim gun drill. Sergt. White, R.G.A., will attend.

At headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Friday, the 27th instant, for lecture by Staff Officer.

RIGHT HALF NO. 1 CO. H.K.V.A.

The next shoot for the above will take place at Tai Hang Range, on Sunday afternoon, 29th instant.

The 200 yards range, will close as soon as possible after 4.30 p.m.

Handicaps are revised as follows:—Gunner F. Loureiro, 11; Gunner A. W. J. Peake, 11; Gunner H. W. Walling, 11, and Gunner J. S. Hay, 15.

JOINED.

Mr. C. F. Bird joined on the 13th September, 1907, assigned Corps No. 993 and posted to the Right Half No. 2 Company.

RESIGNED.

Gunner H. E. Brewer is permitted to resign on leaving the Colony with effect from the 24th August, 1907.

Gunner W. H. Durvance is permitted to resign on account of bad health with effect from the 4th September, 1907.

Gunner W. A. Brand is permitted to resign on leaving the Colony with effect from the 6th September, 1907.

Gunner E. J. Chapman is permitted to resign with effect from the 14th September, 1907.

LEAVE.

Gunner A. H. Liang is granted leave of absence out of the Colony for 12 months with effect from the 9th September, 1907.

Corps Orderly Officer: Lieutenant W.J.M. Scott for week ending Saturday, the 28th instant.

HENRY ARNAUD, an unemployed engineer, residing at No. 1, Wild Dell, Wanchai Road, was arrested last Sunday afternoon and removed to the Central Police Station, on a charge of assaulting the motorman of tramcar No. 9. Later he was released on \$10 bail. Arnaud, it was stated, struck the motorman because the latter refused to make the car travel faster. At the Police Court, on Monday morning, when the case was called there were no signs of Arnaud, and Mr. Melbourne returned his bail.

MURDER IN SHANGHAI.

The N. C. D. News contains particulars of the murder of the Russian Jewess at Shanghai reported in our special telegram last week. Our Shanghai contemporary of 19th inst. says:—

A Russian Jewess was murdered at No. 50 Scott Road yesterday afternoon in a most cruel manner. It appears that the deceased, a married woman named Lisa Cappers, whose husband, it is said, to have been away from Shanghai for some years, was living with another woman, who went to Yangtsepo on Monday evening and celebrated the Jewish Festival with some friends there. There was no other occupant of the house. The deceased went out after 11 p.m. and was seen returning at 2 p.m. At 7.30 p.m. her companion returned from Yangtsepo and found the front door closed and locked. She thereupon went to No. 53 where a friend resided and a houseboy was sent to the back entrance with her. She entered and, on reaching her bedroom, which was downstairs, saw that her boxes had been turned out and that the contents were strewn around the room. Everything in the room appeared to have been searched. She then went upstairs and saw the dead body of Mrs. Cappers lying on the bed partly covered. The woman at once hurried downstairs to the scene of the murder, and Brodiansky, Russian Vice-Consul, and Dr. Voelkers also came in reply to telephone messages and an examination of the body and premises was made. The body lay on the bed-face down. Death had evidently been caused by strangulation, for a towel was still tied tightly around the neck in a reef knot which appeared to have been tied with strong hands. Another towel was tied around the legs just above the ankles. The hands were crossed behind the back as though they had been held there while death took place. A heavy bruise was noticeable under the right eye and bruises on the neck just above where the towel was tied. The contents of the upstairs room in which the body lay had also been ransacked, though the furniture had not been thrown about. It appeared that the search, though hurried, had been conducted quietly. Meanwhile the houseboy from No. 53 had been sent to the police station, where he was questioned and when the inquiry was concluded the body was sent to the mortuary and a guard placed over the premises. Friends of the deceased asserted that she had at least \$100 in the house and a pass-book for \$500 in the bank. The pass-book was found in the bedroom, but no money. The house is a very narrow one and the adjoining residences have upstairs front windows not more than ten feet from the open window of the room in which the tragedy took place; yet no sound was heard by the occupants of either of these places, so they assert, and no one was seen to enter or leave the house after the unfortunate woman returned in the afternoon. The circumstances point to robbery as the motive of the crime, but no substantial evidence had been procured last night. Several detectives were engaged upon the case, however, and many theories had been formed. It appears that the Indian who was arrested early yesterday morning, reports the N. C. D. News of 21st inst., lives two doors away from the house in which the tragedy occurred and inquiries made on the spot disclosed the fact that he had some knowledge of the occurrence. At the police station, however, he made statements, highly improbable they appeared at first, which led to his own release and the arrest of a woman named Minna Medal at Yangtsepo early in the forenoon by Detective McDowell and another foreign detective. The woman was at once formally charged and taken before the Austrian Hungarian Consul Court, where Herr Kobor, Vice-Consul, conducted a preliminary hearing, which lasted all the morning and the greater part of the afternoon. The evidence of the Indian and several other witnesses was taken, but the hearing was conducted in camera. At the conclusion of the case the accused was remanded in custody; the proceedings will be resumed the morning at 9.30 o'clock, again in camera.

A TRIFLY COMPLICATED.

THE REWARD OF DOING A FRIEND A FAVOUR.

Doing favours for a friend is not always a pleasant task, as one Chinaman is ready to vouch for to-day. Some time in July last, a coolie named Wong Ping approached a richer *confre* calling himself E. Min and asked for the loan of a couple of dollars. At first E. Min took the matter as a joke, but when Man Yau, who is reputed to be a well-to-do fisherman, pleaded for Wong Ping, and even went so far as to guarantee repayment, E. Min's money heart softened and he lent the money. E. Min still waiting for his money. One day this week while chatting with some friends in an opium den, at Wanchai, E. Min was told that Wong Ping had left the Colony—had migrated to the Straits—and that his friend, the fisherman, had changed lodgings to Second Street, West Point. E. Min was very much disturbed; he said that if he met the pair they would feel very much hurt, and took his departure home. Yesterday afternoon, E. Min, while thinking over the matter, met a friend—Man Kau Kan, a paint-scraper—in Queen's Road East.

"Look here, Ah Man," E. Min said, "I have helped you before, would you do me a favour?" Man Kau Kan replied that if it were in his power he would. E. Min told him of lending \$5 to Wong Ping; of Man Yau guaranteeing the loan, and would he mind taking a trip to West Point and seeing Man Yau heart softened and Wong departed \$5 to the good. Months went by and E. Min still waiting for his money. One day this week while chatting with some friends in an opium den, at Wanchai, E. Min was told that Wong Ping had left the Colony—had migrated to the Straits—and that his friend, the fisherman, had changed lodgings to Second Street, West Point. E. Min was very much disturbed; he said that if he met the pair they would feel very much hurt, and took his departure home. Yesterday afternoon, E. Min, while thinking over the matter, met a friend—Man Kau Kan, a paint-scraper—in Queen's Road East.

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This morning, at the Police Court, Man Yau pleaded guilty to assaulting the painter—E. Min's friend—and was ordered to pay a fine of \$10 and to hand over one dollar compensation.

There has been a long felt need in Tientsin for servants' registry office, but one who is inclined to undertake the trouble which the organising of such an establishment would entail. If there was such a registry in Tientsin many difficulties would be done away with, to a great extent, as the living places and proper names and characters of all those who obtained employment through the office, would be known. —*China Critic*.

THE SICAWAI OBSERVATORY.

AN APPRECIATION.

At first sight it may appear strange that the work of studying the heavens is undertaken by a religious order; in reality, however, from remote ages there has been an intimate connection between religion and astronomy. The Fathers at Sicawai surely are animated by the spirit of the palmist who cried: "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained; what is man that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man that thou visitest him?" The Jesuit Fathers were the first to introduce the results of the observations of Western astronomers into China; and at Sicawai they are now continuing the labours which began with the arrival of Chinese soil. Matteo Ricci and Verbiest. True, that work has suffered from long interruptions, but to the Jesuits the Chinese owe the calendar at present in use, and to the same order mariners in Far Eastern waters at the present day are indebted for invaluable information placed at their disposal by the unostentatious and patient labours of the Fathers at Sicawai. For Sicawai is

THE MOST IMPORTANT OBSERVATORY on the Chinese coast. Daily throughout the year it receives meteorological and other data by telegraph from about sixty stations, and by careful comparisons of figures, by careful watching of the sun and stars, and by the use of barometers and other instruments, the results are reduced to a minimum. With his finger on an electric switch at Sicawai, one of the Fathers daily gives the standard time to China, and as noon approaches, on nearly every vessel in sight of the signal station, chronometers are checked or set at the time-ball falls.

MAGNETIC INSTRUMENTS.

Sicawai is not an astronomical observatory in the true sense of the word. It does possess a small telescope, by means of which the Fathers can photograph or observe the phenomena of the heavens, but the real work of the station is in the observation of the magnetic conditions, and the recording of seismological and magnetic observations. Particular interest attaches to the latter at this time, as, owing to the advent of the tramways, all the magnetic instruments are shortly to be transferred to Quinsan. By the courtesy of the Director of the Observatory the Shanghai Society of Engineers and Architects will this afternoon (Sept. 21) have an opportunity of inspecting these instruments, a courtesy extended to a representative of this paper a few days ago. Father de Moidey, who has been at the Observatory for nine years, kindly undertook the office of guide for the occasion. The first visit was to the small building in which the magnetic instruments are housed. In this building there are three rooms. In the smallest is a new and, to the uninitiated, very complicated dip inductor or dip circle for showing the dip of the magnet. The instrument is levelled and connected with a galvanometer. It is then revolved by hand, and until it has been adjusted to indicate the exact dip of the magnet the galvanometer registers a current. When no current is discernible the readings on a dial are read by means of a microscope. The next room contains instruments for detecting the declination, or variation of the compass. Each instrument is under a glass case, and consists of a magnet about five inches long suspended by a loop of silk thread or threads. A mirror is attached to each magnet, and any variation can be read on a scale by means of a telescope. By these instruments a declination of one-tenth of a minute can be ascertained, a figure of which the significance can best be understood, when it is realized that mariners are able only to detect a variation of half degree—three hundred times greater.

There is an air of mystery about the room in the centre of the magnetic observatory. It is quite dark, entered through four doors, opening through an inner wall; the object being to equalize the temperature as far as possible. There are here three more instruments: a declinometer and vertical and horizontal force magnetometers. They are connected with a clock by long wooden tunnels. The mechanism of the clock causes three rollers, each covered with sensitized paper, to revolve, and a lamp playing on the mirror suspended under each instrument automatically records any variation of the magnets on the paper. This set of instruments has been working since 1879, and day and night throughout the year the sensitized paper has recorded the behaviour of the magnets. Unwittingly our representative had entered the room without leaving his pocket-knife outside. When informed of this Father de Moidey said he was glad to know, as the result would probably be a disturbance of the instruments that might be mistaken for an earthquake. Every day this dark room is visited at intervals by a Chinese assistant, who checks the time of the clock and sees that all the instruments are in perfect order. The clock-knives are carefully placed on a shelf outside, was a silent reproach to those who heedlessly bring earthquakes in their train.

THE TRANSIT TELESCOPE.

Passing the small observatory, where the Astronomical telescope is mounted we came to the vicinity of the seismograph. This instrument, by which records of earthquakes at the other side of the globe have been obtained, it was not permitted to see, Father de Moidey explaining that the presence of two men in the neighbourhood would seriously disturb it. We passed the little hut in which it is enclosed, therefore, at some distance, and proceeded past the workshop, where one of the brothers undertakes repairs, and even the making of new instruments, to the time-observation apparatus. The transit telescope, by which the correct time is ascertained daily, is a new and beautiful instrument, but so complicated that it would require an expert to do it justice. Six glass levels are used for adjusting it, one of which shows the true level within two seconds, on a scale. At night a portion of the roof above it is removed. The telescope is then set in position, and is connected automatically with that of some known star. When the star comes across the field of vision the time is carefully checked at which it crosses the series of spider-web threads in the eyepiece. By a delicately adjusted lever the instrument is then turned completely round, and more readings are taken. Any fractional error is thus discovered, and the true time, as compared with that shown by the Observatory clock is recorded in a book. The clock is gaining at the rate of 2-10th seconds a day, and was four and a half seconds fast at the time of my visit. Just above it is the electric device by which the time-ball is worked. Having noted the day's error the Father in charge stands by the clock with his finger on the switch, and at noon precisely sends the electric impulse that releases the time ball on the Bund. The clock has been working about twenty years.

A WONDERFUL INDICATOR.

Our next visit was to the hall of the main building. In a room facing the door there is an instrument that perhaps appeals more than any other to the lay mind, though the Fathers regard it rather as a toy. Suspended below a clock is a board on which is placed a sheet of ruled paper. The clockwork lowers the paper to the full extent in exactly a week. A series of people, each of which is attached to

an electric coil, stands in front of this board. One of the pencils was marking a line on the paper every second, clicking backwards, and forwards as it did so. It was recording the direction of the wind. Each point of the compass has its own pencil, and should the wind be between two of the points two pencils are set in motion. Another "moving paper" was writing in lines that only the initiated could read the force of the wind as recorded by the anemometer at the top of the tower. Yet another was following the vagaries of the barometer, and there were attachments for showing the readings of the thermometer and of the rain gauge. The use of the latter pencil has been discontinued here, because it is considered unscientific to take the rainfall from the roof. The present gauges are all in the grounds.

THE LIBRARY.

At the end of the hall is the library, a fine lofty room, the shelves of which are stocked with the publications of other observatories and scientific societies. On a blackboard bearing a rough map of the coast of China, a Brother has just traced the barometric readings as received by telegraph that morning. He is now at the telephone, taking down more readings that have just been received at the signal station on the Bund. The most prominent feature of the chart of the blackboard is the series of circles that show the position of a typhoon.

Were I to describe more instruments there would be fear of this article developing into a scientific catalogue. It must suffice to say that there are barometers, innumerable in the observatory and grounds, thermometers in the sun, in the shade, above and below the ground and in a well, a sunshine recording instrument, an apparatus for receiving Hertzian waves and thus indicating the proximity of a thunderstorm. My visit concluded with the ascent of the clock tower. From the top there is a magnificent view; miles away I could see the Observatory of Zosé, on a hill. Below, almost at my feet, the new cathedral, now building, was a hive of busy workers. The convent, the workshops, the schools lay in the sun, in the shade, above and below the ground and in a well, a sunshine recording instrument, an apparatus for receiving Hertzian waves and thus indicating the proximity of a thunderstorm. My visit concluded with the ascent of the clock tower. From the top there is a magnificent view; miles away I could see the Observatory of Zosé, on a hill. Below, almost at my feet, the new cathedral, now building, was a hive of busy workers. The convent, the workshops, the schools lay in the sun, in the shade, above and below the ground and in a well, a sunshine recording instrument, an apparatus for receiving Hertzian waves and thus indicating the proximity of a thunderstorm. My visit concluded with the ascent of the clock tower. From the top there is a magnificent view; miles away I could see the Observatory of Zosé, on a hill. Below, almost at my feet, the new cathedral, now building, was a hive of busy workers. The convent, the workshops, the schools lay in the sun, in the shade, above and below the ground and in a well, a sunshine recording instrument, an apparatus for receiving Hertzian waves and thus indicating the proximity of a thunderstorm. My visit concluded with the ascent of the clock tower. From the top there is a magnificent view; miles away I could see the Observatory of Zosé, on a hill. Below, almost at my feet, the new cathedral, now building, was a hive of busy workers. The convent, the workshops, the schools lay in the sun, in the shade, above and below the ground and in a well, a sunshine recording instrument, an apparatus for receiving Hertzian waves and thus indicating the proximity of a thunderstorm. My visit concluded with the ascent of the clock tower. From the top there is a magnificent view; miles away I could see the Observatory of Zosé, on a hill. Below, almost at my feet, the new cathedral, now building, was a hive of busy workers. The convent, the workshops, the schools lay in the sun, in the shade, above and below the ground and in a well, a sunshine recording instrument, an apparatus for receiving Hertzian waves and thus indicating the proximity of a thunderstorm. My visit concluded with the ascent of the clock tower. From the top there is a magnificent view; miles away I could see the Observatory of Zosé, on a hill. Below, almost at my feet, the new cathedral, now building, was a hive of busy workers. The convent, the workshops, the schools lay in the sun, in the shade, above and below the ground and in a well, a sunshine recording instrument, an apparatus for receiving Hertzian waves and thus indicating the proximity of a thunderstorm. My visit concluded with the ascent of the clock tower. From the top there is a magnificent view; miles away I could see the Observatory of Zosé, on a hill. Below, almost at my feet, the new cathedral, now building, was a hive of busy workers. The convent, the workshops, the schools lay in the sun, in the shade, above and below the ground and in a well, a sunshine recording instrument, an apparatus for receiving Hertzian waves and thus indicating the proximity of a thunderstorm. My visit concluded with the ascent of the clock tower. From the top there is a magnificent view; miles away I could see the Observatory of Zosé, on a hill. Below, almost at my feet, the new cathedral, now building, was a hive of busy workers. The convent, the workshops, the schools lay in the sun, in the shade, above

SHANGHAI SHARE CASE.

BENJAMIN & POTTS V. GORDIUS NEILSEN.

At Shanghai, on the 17th inst., in the Danish Consular Court, before Mr. T. Raaschou, Consul, acting judicially, this case again came on for hearing.

Mr. L. E. P. Jones appeared for the plaintiffs, Mr. N. C. Home represented the defendant.

Mr. Jones filed the original promissory note, and the following in reply to defendant's—

PLAINTIFFS' REPLY.

1.—The plaintiffs deny that the defendant at any time instructed (as alleged) G. H. Potts not to hold the shares if they fell more than six or at most seven points, but to sell them forthwith if they should fall and that the said G. H. Potts promised to do so. The plaintiffs are not aware of the exact date of the defendant's departure for Europe from Shanghai in 1902, but it appears to have been at a later period than May 9, 1902. Between March 18, 1902, and May 9, 1902, the shares had already dropped more than seven points, to wit twenty points, yet on May 9, 1902, the defendant wrote to the said G. H. Potts a letter, a copy of which letter from Mr. Potts is attached hereto. The plaintiffs further say that the defendant left Shanghai in 1902 without giving the plaintiffs any definite instructions to sell the said shares and on the contrary left them in the hands of the plaintiffs to be "turned over" or sold at their discretion.

2.—On the defendant's return to Shanghai towards the latter part of 1902 the defendant ratified and confirmed what the plaintiffs had done on his behalf in pursuance of his said instructions, including the selling of the shares and executed the promissory note and acknowledgment of indebtedness of December 2, 1902.

3.—The plaintiffs deny that "the whole transaction was a fictitious gaming transaction" and that "the plaintiffs did not buy and sell or hold any share on the defendant's account" and attach hereto copies of the entries in their books showing the whole transaction and copies of the contract notes signed in connection therewith.

4.—The plaintiffs bring into Court for inspection the original promissory note and acknowledgment of indebtedness of December 2, 1902.

Dated this 14th day of September, 1907.

LOFTUS E. P. JONES,

Counsel for the Plaintiffs.

Mr. Jones also filed a number of letters forming the correspondence relating to the different lots of shares which plaintiffs alleged they purchased for defendant. Then followed copies of items in the account books of plaintiffs. Mr. Jones said that the defendant had already inspected the originals referred to in this document.

Mr. Home said it was not necessary to reply to the documents filed, but the parties should proceed to call evidence.

Mr. Jones said the defendant should first call evidence.

Mr. Home said certain facts had been alleged by the parties, and these facts had not been proved to the Court. It was for the plaintiffs to show that as a matter of fact they had expended the sum, which they alleged, on defendant's account, and until they had done that plaintiffs had not made out their case. Counsel submitted that plaintiffs should substantiate the facts in their pleadings by proof.

Mr. Jones contended that it was defendant's duty to call evidence first.

His Honour said that plaintiffs had filed their statement, and defendant should now call evidence if he wished to do so. Unless fresh points were raised by defendant's evidence the plaintiffs' case was closed.

An argument as to the method of procedure to be adopted then took place.

Mr. Home asked his Honour to fix a day for the next hearing, and then counsel would decide what course he would follow.

His Honour said that the questions must be drawn up by counsel, but that they would be put to the witness by the Court but that did not prevent counsel from asking other questions.

The case was adjourned until Tuesday next at 2 o'clock.

THE VANCOUVER OUTBREAK.

LATEST PARTICULARS FROM JAPANESE SOURCES.

A San Francisco message to the *Asahi*, dated September 19th, states that according to a Washington telegram it is generally considered that the hope of excluding the Japanese by means of a treaty or legislation has been strengthened as the result of the Vancouver disturbances. The Press of Boston and other places in the Eastern States, which hitherto have been against the exclusion movement, have now turned in regard to the immigration of the Japanese as a question of greater importance in view of the Vancouver disturbance. Even the most optimistic officials are now reported as deeming it necessary that a treaty should be concluded between Japan and the United States, prohibiting the immigration of labourers into either country. There are two alternatives for the solution of the question arising out of the disturbance in Vancouver—prohibition of the landing of Japanese labourers on the Pacific coast, or the submission to the ruling of the Government in the matter of immigration to British Columbia.

As a matter of fact, negotiations are in progress between Japan and Great Britain for the restriction of the immigration of Japanese labourers into British colonies. It is believed that the settlement of the negotiations will be expedited by the Vancouver trouble. If such an arrangement is made between Japan and Great Britain, it will be impossible for Japan to refuse to come to a similar understanding with the United States. A meeting will take place shortly between Viscount Aoki, Japanese Ambassador, and Mr. Root, the U.S. Secretary of State, for the purpose of considering the matter.

News has reached San Francisco stating that a quantity of raw cotton saturated with oil has been discovered at the entrance of the Japanese Christian church in Vancouver, and Mr. Morikawa has demanded from Mr. Behrman, the Mayor, protection. The Mayor has asked Colonel Holmes, the commander of the militia, to have the army in readiness for action. The Japanese and Chinese labourers in and about Vancouver have gone on strike, lumber companies have been obliged to stop business and the departure of steamers has had to be postponed. This message concludes: "The Japanese and Chinese are in readiness to burn down the whole city of Vancouver, in the event of the attack on them being renewed."

A Tokio message states that the Japanese Government counts upon the sincerity and sympathy of the Canadian Government for a amicable settlement of the Vancouver affair. It is understood that Mr. Ishii, Director of the Commercial Bureau, who is now in Vancouver, will make full arrangements with the Vancouver authorities for the full protection of the Japanese there and without any special action being taken by the Japanese Government, it is believed that the matter will be satisfactorily settled.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA AUSTRALIA & CHINA.

INTERIM DIVIDEND.

25th inst.

Mr. J. Armstrong, local manager of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, writes us under to-day's date:—

"We have this morning received from our London office a telegram advising that an interim dividend has been declared for the past half-year to 30th June, 1907, at 15% p.a. free of income tax."

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

The report of the committee for the season 1906-1907 reads:—

To the members of the Hongkong Cricket Club.

Gentlemen.—The Committee have the pleasure in submitting their report on the working of the Club and the accounts for the year ended 31st August, 1907.

The income and expenditure account shows a deficit of \$3,58 which has been deducted out of the reserve account, now standing at \$5,527.51.

\$106.84 has been written off the assets to provide for bad debts.

It is again the regret of the committee that the funds do not allow of the redemption of \$5,000 debentures according to the deed. Debenture interest \$867 has been allowed for in the accompanying accounts and has since been paid.

There was a larger number of absent members and resignations during the year, and the cricket expenses have increased. The receipts of the cricket and tennis gear and pavilion, bar show an improvement, whilst racquet gear and refreshments a slight falling off comparing with the previous year.

The Club sent a team to Shanghai in October last and was defeated by the home team by 112 runs. The thanks of the Club are due to the Shanghai community for the generous hospitality extended to our representatives during their visit. It is the committee's regret that they were unable to accept the kind invitation from Singapore to send a Hongkong or China Team to play cricket at Easter owing to insufficient number of players available. The invitations extended to the Singapore Cricket Club for a Straits team and Shanghai Cricket Club to send teams here for an Interport Cricket week in November next have been accepted by the latter Club. No reply has yet been received from Singapore.

The Club played 12 matches against the Navy and Garrison, etc., of which 8 were won and 4 lost. There were also played 13 other matches (such as "Longs" v. "Shorts," etc.). The following scores of 100 and over were made:—

Mr. T. E. Pearce, 146, 131 and 116;

Mr. E. A. Fowler, 140.

Mr. T. E. Pearce leads the batting averages with 41.20, and Mr. Sercombe Smith the bowling averages, with 31 wickets for 334 runs, or 10.77 runs per wicket.

The Hongkong Cricket Club League Team played 13 matches, of which 5 were won, 6 lost and 2 drawn. The team took 5th place in the League Competition.

The Annual Lawn Tennis Match against the L.R.C. was played in May and resulted in a win for the L.R.C. by 58 games to 50.

The Lawn Tennis Tournament was played in April and May. Mr. T. B. Northgate won the Championship, and the "A" Class Single Handicap was won by Mr. L. J. Wishart and the "B" Class Single Handicap by Mr. S. E. Green. Capt. Beasley, R.A., and Lt. T. A. Whyte, R.A., were the winners of the Professional Pairs and the Doubles Handicap was won by the brothers Hancock.

The Racquets Tournament fell through for want of support but it is proposed to play the Championship for 1907 before the end of the year.

During the year 70 new members joined the Club. The total number of members is now 568, and there are 23 Naval Subscribers.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Pavilion on Monday, 30th September, 1907, at 5.30 p.m.

The thanks of the Club are due to Messrs. C. H. Blason and A. S. Cobden, for kindly auditing the accounts.

In Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, President till his departure in February last, the Club have lost their oldest playing member. His keenness in all matters whether on the cricket field or in connection with the working of the Club will be sorely missed. Since Mr. Sercombe Smith left the Colony Mr. F. Maitland has acted as President of the Club. The other members who served on the Committee during the past year were: Messrs. R. E. O. Bird, Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, H. Hancock, R. Hancock, H. R. Phelps, W. C. D. Turner, T. C. Gray, H. W. Woodward, R.M., and Major H. E. Lewis, 19th Infantry.

FISHERMAN'S WIFE AND A COIL OF WIRE.

26th inst.

A young Chinese woman, with her hair done up in a Shanghai and adorned with several gold hair ornaments, was charged, this morning, before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, by Inspector Macdonald, of Shau-ki-wan Police Station, with the larceny of a coil of telephone wire, with insulators attached, the property of the Crown.

The accused—Cheung Chat Kin, the wife of the owner of fishing junk No. 6249H—said that the wire was given her by a conductor of a tramcar.

The tramcar conductor was called and he deposed this. When his car arrived at the terminus at Shau-ki-wan yesterday afternoon, he said, he found the coil of wire lying on one of the seats. Thinking it belonged to the accused, who was a passenger on the car, he called her attention to it. She picked up the coil and walked away. A few minutes later a telephone man called for the wire. Witness told him who had it, and accused was arrested. His Worship sentenced her to one week's imprisonment.

As the convicted woman was being led from the Prisoners' Waiting Room, Mr. Andrew G. Jackson, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, appeared in Court. He had been instructed to appear on behalf of the woman. When told that the woman had pleaded guilty and was sentenced, Mr. Jackson pleaded for a fine instead of imprisonment for his client.

His Worship—Have you the power to impose a fine in such cases?

Mr. Jackson said the Court could use its own discretion. What does a woman in her position want with a "piece of wire?" he asked.

His Worship—Have you ever done any selling, Mr. Jackson?—No, but I hope to.

Have you seen the wire used on them?—Yes.

Well, that's the very thing they want. After further discussion, his Worship bound the accused over in the sum of \$100 to come up for judgment when called on.

ALLEGED ASSAULT IN THE WANCHAI MARKET.

STREET COOLIE SENT TO HOSPITAL.

21st inst.

What may, perhaps, terminate in another Wanchai Market manslaughter incident occurred yesterday, under circumstances similar in detail to the one which was reported in these columns some weeks ago.

Yesterday, the story goes, a street coolie, Chan Cheung Hung, went to stall No. 57, in the Wanchai Market, and called for three cents' worth of fish. This was handed to him in a paper bag. The coolie looked at the fish, said it did not look like three cents' worth, and returned it to the stallholder.

"Did you come here to buy, or to make trouble?" bawled the fishmonger, coming from behind his counter. "You people," he continued, "come and order three cents' worth of goods and expect to pay two cents for it. That won't do here." And with that, so it is alleged, the fishmonger picked up a weight and knocked down the coolie with it.

A hue and cry was raised by the people in the market; several policemen rushed to the spot, and the coolie was removed to hospital, while his supposed assailant was placed under lock and key. The extent of the coolie's injuries could not be ascertained to-day, but it is believed that his spleen is ruptured.

This morning, the fishmonger was arraigned by Inspector Gourlay before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court, on a charge of serious assault. The Court held him in \$100 bail for trial.

FISHMONGER CONVICTED OF ASSAULT.

25th inst.

Sunday morning last, a street coolie named Chan Cheung Hung was sent to hospital by Inspector Gourlay suffering from what was then believed to be a ruptured spleen. This man, it appeared, went to a fishmonger's stall (No. 57) in the Wanchai Market and called for three cents' worth of fish. This was handed to him in a paper bag. The coolie weighed the contents, found a deficiency in the weight, and returned the fish to the stallholder, remarking that it was only worth two cents.

"Did you come here to buy, or to make trouble?" bawled the fishmonger, coming from behind his counter. "You people," he continued, "come and order three cents' worth of goods and expect to pay two cents for it. That won't do here." And with that the fishmonger picked up a weight and knocked down the coolie with it.

A hue and cry was raised by the people in the market; several policemen rushed to the spot, and the coolie was removed to hospital, while his supposed assailant was placed under lock and key. The coolie remained in hospital until yesterday when he was discharged, and later in the day he presented himself at the Police Court, where the fishmonger faced assault. He proved his case, and Mr. Melbourne fined the accused \$10. He was also ordered to pay one dollar compensation to the coolie.

THE "DOOM" OF THE FOREIGN MERCHANTS IN JAPAN.

RAW SILK TRADE IN JAPAN.

THE "DOOM" OF THE FOREIGN MERCHANTS IN JAPAN.

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THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.

THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

The following is a translation of the speech delivered by Mr. K. Takahashi, President of the Yokohama Specie Bank, at the 15th general meeting of its shareholders held on September 10th in the Bank's hall.

Gentlemen.—In the last year, in compliance with the order of Minister of Finance, I set out for Europe in the capacity of a Japanese Government financial commissioner and returned home in May this year. I was therefore unable to attend the general meetings of the Bank held in September last year and in March this year. Thanks are due to the Board of Directors and to the employees of the Bank and its branches for the steady development of the Bank, with which I am more than satisfied.

In laying before you the report of the Bank's business for the first half of this year, ending June 30th, I propose to submit for your consideration a few facts relating to domestic and foreign financial conditions and to this Bank's operations during the period under review.

The economic world of Japan during the above-mentioned period underwent a radical change from the middle of January, due to a reaction from the fever of general enterprises and share speculations since the autumn of last year. As a result, quotations of various shares and bonds fell day after day, month after month, followed by bankruptcies of many banks whose foundations were not strong. Not was this all. Bankruptcies were also reported among those connected with the stock markets. The general public were therefore depressed with a feeling of anxiety. In some quarters of the commercial and industrial world, they were practically deprived of the means of obtaining money, with the result that general enterprises had to be temporarily discontinued. Under these circumstances, some business men went so far as to apply to the Central Bank for the expansion of the limit of the so-called *wikayari* system relating to securities, while others asked the Financial authorities to devise means for relieving the depressed economic world, with the apparent intention of restoring the money market to its normal state. Such was doubtless an upward tendency during the latter part of last year. Banks and companies of sound type, however, maintained a cautious attitude, in consequence of which our financial world was in no way affected.

As the result of the steady fall of share quotations early this year, some of the domestic banks entertained pessimistic views about the future of our financial world and naturally resorted to grant loans, thereby creating a most dangerous state of affairs for a while. These loans were for the payment of national taxes, for the wholesale purchase of dry goods for the summer, and also upon the advent of the tea and silk season, but in spite of all this, the money market remained inactive. The Specie Bank's system differed largely from that of other banking institutions in the interior. Availing itself of the prosperous condition of foreign trade, especially its exports, since the second half of last year, the Bank devoted its entire energy to foreign exchange, which is the Bank's principal line of business. Thus the Bank witnessed a most active season in contrast to other institutions.

Turning to foreign trade, we find that whereas the excess of imports over exports during the first half of last year was ¥46,000,000, that of imports over exports during the corresponding period of this year was ¥22,000,000. Exports for the first half of this year amounted to ¥107,000,000, showing an increase of ¥12,000,000 over the corresponding period of last year. Imports amounted to ¥25,000,000, showing an increase of ¥2,000,000 over the first half of last year. Such a fine showing was practically due to the fact that in the line of exports there was a marked increase in quantity of raw silk, cotton cloth, copper and cotton yarn, although refined sugar and *habutai* showed a diminution, and in the line of imports there was a remarkable increase of raw cotton, rice, wool, oil cake, iron machinery, though cotton yarn, flour and clothing showed a decrease. The foreign trade of Japan is yearly increasing due to the development of productive enterprises at home and to the favourable condition of the money market in Europe. The exports and imports of gold and silver during the period under review amounted in value to over ¥8,400,000 and over ¥3,600,000 respectively, showing an excess of ¥4,800,000.

Reviewing economic conditions abroad, we find that in the second half of last year the money market in New York became exceedingly tight and in consequence a considerable amount of gold bullion was shipped from England to the United States. On the other hand England obtained a supply of funds from France with the object of making good the deficit. With the current year the money market in the United States began to assume a favourable tone and was eventually restored to its normal condition. Thereupon the Bank of England gradually lowered the discount rate and in April the rate went down as far as four per cent. The discount rate in the City of London was likewise lowered to three per cent, but towards the end of June it was raised to 3½ per cent, or thereabouts. Since the spring of this year the money markets in European countries have gradually presented a favourable aspect, as usual, attended by the development of commerce and industry, but apparently, the future of the money markets is not quite free from anxiety.

In the direction of the Orient, it should be noted that, in India, some of the cotton merchants, who were connected with the Chinese trade, were declared bankrupt owing to the business depression in the interior, but agricultural products being plentiful, commerce and industry maintained a prosperous condition. At Hongkong, Shanghai, Tientsin and other ports, business was inactive and the money market dull. Manchuria was still in a state of transition and commerce was generally inactive.

Financial conditions both at home and abroad were as explained above. Owing to favourable factors in the price of silver bullion and in the rates of foreign exchange, the Bank carried out its business with success and was able to realise ample profits. In March this year, when the Japanese Government raised the five per cent. conversion loan of £3,000,000 both in England and France, the Specie Bank's branch in London took part, as usual, in floating the same with a good deal of success for which I, together with those present here, am bound to express satisfaction.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I would state that the total profit during the period under review amounted to ¥2,009,918.48, to which was added ¥901,147.74 brought forward from last account, making a total of ¥2,909,066.22, and I ask you to approve of the accounts for the said period.

Japan Chronicle.

REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS.

Gentlemen.—The directors submit to you the annexed statement of the liabilities and assets of the bank, and of the profit and loss account for the half-year ended 30th June, 1907. The gross profit of the bank for the past half-year, including ¥91,1

NO SQUEEZE.

Since his arrival, H.E. Viceroy Chang has issued a proclamation prohibiting his subordinates from charging fees on individuals who desire to present petitions. The proclamation gave serious warning to the subordinates, who are in charge of the collection of petitions, and stated that should any complaints be received against any of them, the offenders will be strictly dealt with.

OPIUM DIVANS.

A few days ago several opium divans were found to be still open and doing business in the city, and the district magistrate of Nam-hoi has sent weiyuns to seal up the establishments.

PAPER STORE.

The printing press and the paper store in connection with the Canton Government Paper Factory, which was formerly situated in Po Shun Street, in the western suburb, has been removed to a building on the new bund, in the southern suburb, near the Tien Tse wharf, formerly the property of Messrs. Chan Lun Tai & Co., contractors for the construction of the new bund, now confiscated. The removal of this establishment is the outcome of the inconvenience to the general in buying forms for petitions and other official documents, issued by the Factory, which are the only recognised forms accepted by the Canton Government departments. The new building is estimated to be worth Tels 18,000, and the paper factory authorities have to pay ninety taels per mensem as rent to the Shan Hoi Chu.

LIXIN EXEMPTION.

The petition from the Waterworks Company to the Auditor for the exemption of payment of Lixin dues on money paid for the use of the said company, has been sanctioned by H.E. the Viceroy.

APPOINTMENT.

The Authorities have proposed to appoint the present Acting Provincial Judge of Canton, Kung Sun Tiam, as Tao-tai to the prefectures of Yumchow and Linchow, vice Tao-tai Wong Ping-yun, who was discharged a short time ago.

FORTHCOMING WEDDING.

The Junior Lieutenant Tartar General, Li Kwok Gilt, nephew of the late Marquis Li Hui-chang, is going to be married at the end of the ninth month to the daughter of H.E. Na Tung, grand councillor (Manchu), of Peking. The wedding will take place in the recent offices of the Six Bureaus Searching Department, on the new bund.

PETITIONS.

Since assuming charge of office, H.E. Viceroy Chang has drawn up several regulations, for the guidance of petitioners who wish to present memorials at the viceregal yamen on any matter, and all petitioners must abide by these regulations, or else their petitions will not be accepted.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Owing to the inconvenience caused recently by the cutting of the telegraph wires in the prefecture of Yumchow, by the rebels, Brigadier-General Li Chun of Pakhoi has suggested to the Canton Authorities the advisability of installing wireless telegraphic communication between Canton and that prefecture, to overcome any future difficulties.

OFFICIAL AMENITIES.

Yesterday, the Tartar General and the Lieutenant Tartar Generals invited H.E. Viceroy Chang to a dinner at the Dutch Hotel. Among the numerous guests were the Admiral and Commander-in-chief, Chun Ping-chik, H.E. Chang Fat-tze and others.

OPIUM REFUGE.

Mr. Wu Sun-ling, an energetic member of the Central Anti-Opium Association, has brought up a proposal for the establishment of a hospital on the foreign style for the treatment of opium-smoking patients. A meeting was held yesterday at the Oi Yuk Charitable Institution for the purpose, and it was decided to establish such an institution by subscription without soliciting the aid of the Central Association. It was also decided to obtain the use of the front office of the Mun Lan Shi Yuen for future meetings in connection with this matter.

COMMERCIAL.

FRIIGHT MARKET.

Messrs. Lamke & Rogge write in their fortnightly circular of 21st inst. as follows:—

"Business has continued about the same lines as described in latest reports, but if the more recent attitude of liners may be taken as a forecast of likely developments, there are distinct indications that some improvement at least is imminent. Whereas for quite a number of months past, vessels belonging to the fleet of the large British companies were always open to entertain proposals for charters in nearly all directions on the coast, they now almost entirely abstain from competing for outside business, and at rates considerably above the current ones. This change of disposition is without doubt attributable to the prospective autumn trade from the Yangtze River, which, according to all reports, promises to assume very large dimensions and calls for extensive tonnage engagements in that quarter. The Saigon to Hongkong rate stood at 14 to 15 cents at time of issue of our last circular. Fixtures have since been effected at 12 cents and this figure may be taken as representative of the market. One of the settlements includes that of Nore, s.s. *Solida* on 15th inst. at \$4.00, equivalent of about 15 cents per picul. It should, however, be explained here, that the vessel was originally taken up for a Saigon to Singapore voyage at \$4.00, but the Singapore market meanwhile collapsing, this charter was not carried out, and charterer felt compelled to ask owners' sanction for the substitution of Saigon to Hongkong against payment of a proportionately higher rate of freight. Saigon to Philippines further requirements have been filled by the settlement of a few vessels at 21 cents to one, 3 cents increase if to two ports. No further demand is noticeable. From Saigon to a port South Coast Japan a large steamer is reported fixed at 22 cents per picul, and more business is likely to come off in view of the vast floods, which have occurred in Japan of late.

"The charter of a middling-sized carrier has been arranged from N. C. Java for Hongkong at 25 cents per picul. On account of the local sugar market being in a very sluggish state it would appear extremely doubtful, whether in this direction additional tonnage will be required for some little time to come. Singapore to Shanghai, option Hongkong, a suitable timber boat has found employment, rate as per list.

"Newchwang—Numerous boats laden with beans and beancakes are said to be reaching Newchwang now from the interior and it is to be hoped that there will be sufficient accumulation as to lower the price and render chartering operations possible for the South.

"Coal freights are neglected. Only fixture we have heard of is from Moji for Canton at \$2.10 per ton.

"On monthly terms s.s. *Knieberg* has been secured by a Northern concern for special business. The rate, \$4,000 per month, is a comparatively fair one.

Casualties.—German s.s. *Sullberg* has apparently become a victim of the typhoon raging in the neighbourhood of the Colony on the 21st inst. The ship left Hoibow on the previous day with a cargo of coal bound for Hongkong, which port in the ordinary course of events she would have reached on the 24th instant, but not having been heard of ever since departure, her loss with all hands is to be feared. A search undertaken by the German gunboat *Tiger* has revealed no traces of the missing vessel and her crew.

Sail Freights.—There is nothing fresh to report under this head. For New York and/or Baltimore—Brit. ship *King George*, 3,577 tons, arrived 21st July. Brit. bark *Lyndhurst*, 2,249 tons, arrived 20th July. Brit. bark *Alcidia*, 2,492 tons, arrived 27th July. Brit. bark *Editha*, 2,968 tons, arrived 24th August. Brit. bark *Lanhill*, 1,950 tons, arrived 28th August. Sail Tonnage Disengaged.—None. Departure of Sailers.—None.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write on the 20th inst.:—

"The market was more active in the early part of the week, and a fair amount of business has been put through."

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks, old ex new issue, have not fluctuated during the week, and the quotation remains unchanged. The new shares have found buyers at \$50 7/8, and more can be placed at the rate. The London rates are also without change.

Marine Insurances.—There are sellers of North China at Tls. 7 1/2. Union are in favour at \$760, while Yangtze are at \$17.

Fire Insurances.—China Fires have weakened to \$86, without business. Hongkong Fires have been sold at the reduced rate of \$30.

Shipping.—China and Manila can still be placed at \$15. Douglases are in demand at \$4 1/2, without inducing sellers. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats are neglected at \$7 1/2. Indo-China can be sold jointly at \$4 and \$10, which is equivalent to \$70 for the preferred and deferred shares. Shell Transports are quiet at 44 1/2. Star Ferries old and new are inquired for at \$20 and \$10 respectively.

Refineries.—China Sugars are steady at \$58. Perak Sugars are still on offer at Tls. 90. Mining.—Chinese Engineerings have improved to Tls. 15 1/2 at which rate they are wanted. Ruhs have risen to \$8 1/2, with buyers.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Kowloon and Whampoa Docks are offering at \$3. Shanghai Docks are weak at Tls. 78. Hongkong Wharves have weakened to Tls. 226, and sellers prevail in the North.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—There are buyers of Hongkong Hotels at \$96, ex the dividend of \$4 per share paid on the 16th instant. Sales of Hongkong Lands have been effected at \$95. Humphreys Estates can be placed at \$104. West Points are quiet at \$48. Shanghai Mills.—Ewos have not fluctuated, and buyers again rule the market at \$15 1/2. Hongkong Cottons are neglected at \$15 1/2, ex the dividend of 50 cents per share paid on the 16th instant. In the North, Internationals have slightly improved to Tls. 53, while Soy Chees have dropped to Tls. 70 with sellers.

Miscellaneous.—China Borneos are firmer at \$9 1/2 and Light and Powers at \$6. China Providents have inquired at \$9, after sale at the rate. Dairy Farms have been dealt at the increased rate of \$17. There are buyers of Green Island Cements at \$11. Hongkong Electric have been sold at \$14, and there is further buyers. Hongkong Ropes are inquired for at \$25. Steam Landries are quiet at \$6 ex the dividend of 40 cents per share paid on the 19th inst. Langkats have continued rising during the week, and at the close there are sellers in the North at Tls. 34, ex the third interim dividend of Tls. 7 1/2 per share paid on the 16th inst.

27th inst.

The market has been very inactive during the week under review, and few transactions have taken place.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks are quiet at \$54 1/2, for the old shares ex new issue, and \$50 1/2, for the new shares. The London rate for the former has weakened to 47 1/2, and the latter remains unchanged.

Marine Insurances.—Cantons are still neglected at \$20. North China have sellers at Tls. 75, and Yangtze at \$170. Union are weaker at \$760.

Fire Insurances.—China Fires have not fluctuated, and are quiet at \$86. Hongkong Fires are steady at \$170.

Shipping.—Douglases have improved to \$4 1/2, and Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats to \$8. Shell Transports are out of favour at 44 1/2. There are buyers of Star Ferries old and new at \$20 and \$10, respectively.

Refineries.—China Sugars are unchanged and without business at \$98. Perak Sugars can still be had at Tls. 90.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings have risen to Tls. 15 1/2 in the North, and buyers prevail at the rate. Ruhs have inquired at \$8 1/2.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Kowloon and Whampoa Docks are offering at \$3. Shanghai Docks are weak at Tls. 78. Hongkong Wharves are obtainable at \$67 1/2. Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have weakened to \$100, at which rate there are buyers. In the North, Shanghai Docks are unaltered, while Hongkong Wharves can be secured at the reduced rate of Tls. 224.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels are again in favour and have strengthened to \$96. Hongkong Lands appreciated to \$95. Sales of West Points have been effected at \$48. Shanghai Lands are easier and are offering in the North at Tls. 101.

Cotton Mills.—A weaker tone prevails in Ewos which have declined to Tls. 63, with sellers. There is no business to record in stocks under this heading and rates for other Northern mills are unchanged.

Miscellaneous.—China Borneos have advanced to \$9 1/2 at which rate shares are wanted. China Light and Powers are in request at \$6, but none are obtainable at the rate. Dairy Farms have been sold and are wanted at \$18. Hongkong Electric are inquired for at \$14 and Hongkong Ropes can be placed at \$24. Peak Tramways have inquired at \$12 for the old shares. The new shares (\$1 paid up) are a shade firmer at \$1.90. Watsons are wanted at quotation. Langkats have experienced a sharp decline, but at close there are buyers at Tls. 330. Sumatras have strengthened, and are in request at Tls. 116.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T. 2/2 1/2
Do demand 2/2 1/2
Do 1 month's sight 2/2 1/2
France—Bank T.T. 2/2 1/2
America—Bank T.T. 2/2 1/2
Germany—Bank T.T. 2/2 1/2
India T.T. 16 1/2
Do demand 16 1/2
Shanghai—Bank T.T. 72 1/2
Singapore T.T. 34 1/2 prem.
Java—Bank T.T. 108 1/2
4 months' sight L/C. 35 1/2
6 months' sight L/C. 37 1/2

30 days' sight San Francisco & New York. 54 1/2
1 month's sight do. 55 1/2
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne. 2 3/4
1 month's sight France. 2 3/4
6 months' sight Germany. 2 3/4
1 month's sight Italy. 2 3/4
Bank of England rate. 31 1/2
Bank of France. 44 1/2
S. S. Svalbard. 50 00

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Commission of Delimitation of the new Franco-Siamese frontier is expected to arrive shortly in Bangkok.

THE Japanese crew of the *Nittomaru* who were arrested as seal poachers have been released at Unalaska Island.

OWING to indisposition Mr. F. A. Hazeland, first police magistrate, was unable to preside at the Police Court, last Monday.

IT is reported from Mukden that M. Kokovisoff, Russian Minister of Finance, will shortly visit Manchuria and China proper.

A NEW scale of rates of postage, which comes into force on the 1st October, is published in the *Government Gazette* of the 20th inst.

JAPANESE Consul-General Kato, of Tientsin, has been transferred to Mukden; and will be succeeded at Tientsin by Consul Obaba of Chefoo.

MR. STEVENSON, the World's champion billiardist, accompanied by Mrs. Stevenson and two children, arrived from Australia by the E. & A. s.s. *Empire*, yesterday.

REVISED regulations under which Commissions in the British Army may be obtained by officers of Colonial Military Forces, may be seen at the Colonial Secretary's Office.

JOHN DOWNIE was sent to the House of Detention again yesterday morning. He pleaded guilty to being a vagrant—a life he has been leading since his arrival in the Colony during the Russo-Japan war.

A TOKIO telegram of 18th inst. reads:—The Privy Council will discuss tomorrow the revision of the organization of the Residency-General in Korea, including the creation of a Vice-Resident-General.

THE leading Shanghai paper prints a despatch from Tokio, dated 16th inst., which says:—It is reported from Washington that China has appealed to the United States against the encroachments of England, France and Japan.

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., announces that the total output of the company's three mines for the week ending September 7, 1907, amounted to 18,786.83 tons and the sales during the same period to 20,251.36 tons.

THE battleship *Katori* and six other ships, which form the main force of the first squadron of the Japanese fleet, on their recent trip from Taiwan to Korea, were put through a speed test. The *Katori* attained the highest speed, maintaining 19 1/2 knots throughout the test.

COMMANDER Basil R. H. Taylor, R.N., has been appointed, provisionally and subject to His Majesty's pleasure, to be an official member of the Legislative Council with effect from the 1st inst., during the absence on leave of the Hon. Mr. F. J. Badesley, or until further notice.

THE Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledged with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospitals:—

Ma Sz Nai \$17.90
Capt. C. V. Lloyd 5.00

FIRE broke out in the Kosaka silver mine, Akita prefecture, on 17th inst. The lock gates of the reservoir were destroyed in an attempt to extinguish the flames by turning on water, and thirty houses were washed away. One hundred persons were burnt to death and thirty were drowned.

BARON ARAKAKI Sone has been appointed Vice-Resident-General of Korea. Baron Sone was born in 1849, educated in France, and has been successively Japanese Minister in Paris, Minister of Justice, of Agriculture and Commerce, and of Finance. He was appointed Privy Councillor last year.

WHILE being removed to hospital in a ricksha last Monday morning, a coolie, whose name could not be obtained, but who resided at Wanchai, expired in Des Vaux Road Central—at the rear of the City Hall. The man had been ill for some time, and his sudden demise is believed to be due to heart failure.

A TOKIO despatch of the 17th inst. to the N. C. D. News says:—The co-operation of the Japanese Government and the Japanese people has been obtained by the Hokkaido Colliery in the foundation of a steel foundry. The Kawasaki Dockyard Company at Kobe has secured a loan of ¥10,000,000 from Messrs. Armstrong.

MR. V. H. LAUNING returned to Shanghai on 19th inst. by the R.M.S. *Empress of India*, after nine months' home leave. It is hoped that he may be able to make the trip to Hongkong with the Shanghai Intercontinental Cricket team in November. By the same steamer, Mr. L. Walker, captain of the S. C. C., returned to Shanghai from a holiday in Japan.

RETURN of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 23rd September, 1907:—

Library, Museum.
Non-Chinese..... 366 155
Chinese..... 144 1,093
Total..... 510 1,248

ANOTHER day—fourteen now—since the steamer *Sullberg* should have arrived in port and still no word of her. Last week the *On Sang* reported sighting her near the Ladrone. The German gunboat *Tiger* on two occasions searched around those islands, but found no trace of her. Then the native fishermen reported seeing the masts of a submerged vessel south of St. John's Island. The *Tiger* found nothing. It is now the general consensus of opinion in shipping circles that the *Sullberg* foundered with all hands.

LO KWAI FAN, a shopkeeper, doing business at 40, Wing Lok Street, charged a coolie named Tong Lu, 5, Yan Shau Lane, before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, to-day (25th inst.), with breaking and entering his house, during the small hours of this morning, with the intention of committing a felony. According to the evidence, the coolie picked the lock of the door and let himself in. Then he started on a tour of inspection. He awakened the shopkeeper by his noise and he was captured. His Worship passed sentence of one month's imprisonment, with four hours' stocks.

THE embargo on cereals in Kwangtung has been partly removed.

IT is announced that the Crown Prince leaves Tokio in October to visit Korea; and will also see Kishu, Shikoku and Chugoku, on his way home.

THE Ministry of War has decided to establish a Naval School in Chusan, near Pootoo. This seems to indicate that Tientsin, which is in Chusan Island, is to be made a naval base for the re-organized Navy of China.

CAPTAIN Stewart, of the C. V. S. *Chi Yen*, on arrival at Shanghai on the 20th inst., reported having picked up two fishermen who were clinging to some wreckage between Kitoan Light Vessel and Block House Bay. The castaways reported that their sampan was run down by some steamer at 3 a.m. that morning. Two of their shipmates were drowned.

THE Board of Directors of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, we are informed, propose to pay a dividend for the last half-year at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, as before, by drawing ¥150,000 on the reserve for the equalization of dividend. The deficiency in the company's profit is said to be due to the construction of large ships, which have not yet brought in any return.

IT is reported from Peking that H.E. Liang Tzu-yen, Chinese Minister-designate to the U.S. Spain and Peru, who was appointed the other day Acting Junior Vice-President of the Waiwup, vice Wang Ta-hai, who is going as Special Commissioner to Great Britain will very likely be retained in Peking after all, in which case there is an intention to send H.E. Wu Ting-fang again to Washington.

INSPECTOR Collett, of No. 1 Police Station, charged two coolies yesterday morning with carrying in Des Vaux Road West, before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, with conveying forty-nine tins of kerosene oil along the public street, on the 20th inst., without having each tin labelled, both in English and Chinese, "Dumorous goods." The accused were fined a dollar each and an order was made by the Court forfeiting the oil.

A TERRIBLE accident befell a Burman the other evening in Insein. His hair got caught in the fly-wheel of a rice mill in which he was working. Instantly he was dragged off his feet and whirled round with sickening precipitancy and when the machinery was stopped and his body extricated from the machinery it was found that the whole of his scalp had been peeled off. Death was instantaneous. The deceased's body was taken to the hospital mortuary.

MESSRS. Jardine, Matheson & Co. inform us with reference to the statement which appeared last Wednesday to the effect that one of the survey parties on the Chinese section of the Canton-Kowloon Railway had had trouble with villagers, that there was a slight disturbance owing to some survey flags having been placed close to a grave, and some mud was thrown, but no serious damage was done. The survey work has not in any way been interrupted.

THE loss sustained by the Tokyo Fire Marine and Transport Insurance Company from the Hakodate fire has not been so heavy as was reported. We are informed by the company that the total amount insured with them in Hakodate was ¥1,028,722, including ¥15,668 for special insurance. Of this sum, ¥280,824 was reinsured, so that the actual loss to the company is ¥747,898, which is to be recovered in part by the disposal of the salvage. As will be seen from the company's annual report, the reserve totalled the sum of ¥1,424,598, which will sufficiently cover the loss, leaving still a large balance in hand.

"I WAS asleep when I saw the money dropping down," said Parab Singh, an Indian coolie, amidst much laughter, in the Police Court, last Tuesday. "You did?" asked Mr. Melbourne, calmly. Then Parab Singh collected himself and straightened out the matter. "I was asleep yesterday afternoon in my house—116, Praya East—when I felt someone cutting my girdle. I sat up and saw Bhagat Singh sitting at my side. When I got to my feet I saw the money dropping down from my pocket. Bhagat Singh started gaily to steal the eleven sovereigns from his pocket and was sentenced to three weeks' hard labour."

THE rumoured restriction upon Japanese immigrants into Canada is flatly contradicted at Tokio, even as the aft-arms of measures taken while Vancouver is unsettled. But restriction proposals have not been received and would never be entertained. Japan consented to the prohibition of transmigration by Japanese from Hawaii to America; but has not consented to the prohibition of transmigration by Japanese from Japan to America. In this connection it is believed that Secretary Taft's approaching visit will expedite a solution of pending questions. The Labourite Convention at Winnipeg demands suspension of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty for six months.

THE net profit of the Japan Marine Insurance Company for one year just closed has amounted to ¥329,000, including a surplus brought over. On this sum ¥17,000 has been placed to the legal reserve, ¥20,000 to the special reserve, ¥20,000 for bonuses of officials, ¥75,000 for a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent., ¥150,000 for an extra dividend at the rate of 10 per cent., a surplus of ¥41,000 being carried forward. The Board of Directors has decided to call up ¥2,500 on each share, keeping back this sum from the extra dividend. When this has been done, the total amount of the paid-up capital of the company will be increased from ¥55,000 to ¥60,000.

A TOKIO despatch, of 20th inst., to the N. C. D. News says:—The new residential appointments under the revision of the organization of the Korean Residency General have been suggested, as a corollary to the recent Korean Agreement. The Cabinet is practically Japanese under Marquis Ito with Japanese vice-ministers, while the Korean Cabinet acts as Ministers in the Cabinet of the Resident-General. Vice-Resident-General Baron Sone belongs to the clique of Marshall Yamagata or General Katsura, whose assistance is valuable for Marquis Ito. This also probably indicates Marquis Ito's retirement sooner or later. Marquis Ito left for Seoul on the 22nd inst.

WE regret to learn that a serious accident has befallen Mr. W. E. Schmidt, the Kobe Agent of the Union Assurance Company of Canton, Ltd. It appears that Mr. Schmidt, who has been taking a holiday with Mr. C. H. Phipps of the British Consulate at Kobe, fell into the hot spring at Yumoto, the temperature of the water of which is 170°. A plank placed over the spring and on which Mr. Schmidt was standing gave way, precipitating him into the water. He was badly scalded, but Mr. Phipps and two hotel acquaintances helped him out as promptly as possible and, obtaining a chair, took Mr. Schmidt back to the hotel, where the sufferer was given every attention. He is now in the International Hospital at Yokohama, and it is satisfactory to expect that he is progressing as well as can be expected. *Japan Chronicle*.

IT is stated that the extra-ordinary expenditure for the Japanese Navy for next year is estimated at over ¥40,000,000, which sum includes ¥13,800,000 for the construction of a first-class armoured cruiser of 18,700 tons, with a speed of 25 knots, and a few destroyers. No new works are proposed for next year at Port Arthur or on the Korean coast.

THE rivers of Tokio and the adjacent prefectures are again overflowing into the surrounding country. It is feared that the inclement weather is likely to continue; this inspires a general feeling of pessimism. Reports of disasters, including the minor catastrophe at Nagasaki and configurations in many directions, have of late been depressingly frequent.

MR. J. M. Beck, superintendent, the Eastern Extension Australasia & China Telegraph Co., Ltd., informs us that the Commercial Pacific Cable Company's direct route to America has become interrupted last Saturday morning, telegrams for the American Continent (and Honolulu) must pass via Atlantic at the higher rates given on the tariff cards. Senders will oblige by marking up telegrams accordingly.

MR. C. H. Phipps, of the Twenty-five rounds of ammunition without a permit. He admitted possession, adding that he purchased them to protect himself against pirates. His Worship fined him \$10 and ordered the forfeiture of the revolver and ammunition.

THE Hankow paper states:—We learn, on the best of authority, that the first property presented in the hands of the Astor House Hotel, has been acquired by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for the sum of three hundred thousand taels. We notice that pheasants are already on the market, and incidentally learn that the natives are not the only guilty parties in the slaughter of birds out of season, foreign so-called sportsmen having shot three pheasants last Sunday.

A VERY interesting game of bowls was rolled off on the afternoon of the 20th inst., on the Police Recreation Club's bowling green, at Happy Valley, between teams representing coolies and Irishmen. The game was for a silver cup and spoons. The Scottish team was represented by Serge Warr, McDonald, Gordon and Sim; the Irish team, Serge Davitt, Brazil, Inspector Warnock and Chief Detective Inspector Hanson. The Scotchmen won easily. Score: 22, 0.

IT is officially announced that an explosion, owing to burning gunpowder, took place on board the battleship *Katori*, in one of the ten-inch guns during target practice on the afternoon of the 16th inst. in Hiroshima Bay. Five officers, including the Lieut. Commander and a lieutenant, and twenty-two men were killed, while two officers and sixteen men were wounded. One reliable version states that the cause was the usual one of the explosion of a shell which had been loaded into a gun that was with fire, i.e., which had not been sponged out.

AFTER a careful inspection of Mr. Melbourne's Court, following the collapse of a portion of the ceilings the other day, we learn that the building is considered unsafe. On Saturday, the Court was vacated and until the building is properly attended to all business will have to be transacted in the first Court. Since the first collapse the ceiling has bulged considerably and is expected to fall at any moment. The same morning workmen were busy engaged in erecting scaffolding on each side of the room, preparatory to starting work earnestly.

HIS Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to Ordinance No. 6 of 1907 to authorize the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation from time to time to increase the capital of the said Corporation from the sum of ten millions of dollars to a sum not exceeding the sum of twenty millions of dollars, and to continue incorporated for a further term of 21 years; and to continue in force for a further period of 21 years the provisions of section 3 of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ordinance, 1899, with regard to the excess issue of Bills and Notes payable to bearer on demand.

OWING to the recent disastrous conflagration and the general financial depression, the Nishibu Fire Insurance Company is reported to be in serious trouble. According to the returns published by the Clearance House, on the 9th instant, many drafts drawn by the company were dishonoured. The company's total risks at Hakodate were ¥300,000. The *Yiji* states that the company is now making investigations relative to the amount which must be paid at once. The Board of Directors of the company held a meeting on the 8th instant, for the purpose of considering the means to pay off the insurances, but no decision was arrived at.

MESSRS. Hughes and Hough, Government auctioneers, last Thursday, put up for sale by public auction, at their sales rooms, the valuable leasehold property, comprising all that piece or parcel of ground situate at Victoria and registered in the Land Office as Section No. 1 of Section "A" of Inland Lot No. 103. Together with the messuages thereon known as No. 269, Queen's Road Central. Term 999 years. Bidding opened at \$9,000, quickly followed by two \$1,000 bids. When \$10,000 became the highest bid. The property eventually was bought by Mr. Tai Chao Ito, a Des Vaux Road merchant, for \$12,000. Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master were the solicitors for the mortgagee.

ON several nights last week motemen of trams have been put to much trouble by the presence of stones in the grooves of the tram lines, at West Point. The matter was reported to the West Point police, and as the result of a strict look-out, a ten-year-old lad, who resides at 5, Sai Woo Lane, was caught last night (20th inst.) in the act of placing a handful of stones on the rails near the old harbour office. "Do you know you are endangering the lives of the passengers?" Mr. Melbourne asked the youngster when he came before him at the Police Court, to-day. "I was not placing stones on the tram lines," he replied. "I was only throwing them at the cars!" He was fined \$2, the alternative being seven days.

TWO SEAMEN—William Thomson, of the steamer *Alcidia*, and Fred Ezra, unemployed, residing at the Elbow Hotel, were arraigned before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, this morning (25th inst.), at the Police Court, on charges of assaulting a Chinese seaman and his wife in First Street, West Point, yesterday. "Disregarding the rules of the road," was we informed, the cause of the trouble. Accused went for a stroll along First Street yesterday afternoon. On the side-walk they encountered the complainant, who, it was alleged, were ordered to put her hand upon, and because they would not step off the side-walk to allow her to pass, they were punched. His Worship fined the first defendant \$3 and ordered him to give one dollar compensation. The second was discharged with a caution.

SEVERAL ARRESTS of Kennedy Town Police Station, placed a coolie before Mr. Melbourne, last Thursday, in the Police Court, on charges of being in unlawful possession of one white silk coat and a pair of rubber boots, and for giving false particulars to a pawnbroker at West Point. On Wednesday, the accused, Leung Shing, went to the pawnbroker's shop and offered the silk coat in pawn. The pawnbroker accepted the article and asked for Leung's name and address. Leung, apparently, had forgotten his name, and where he lived. This aroused the pawnbroker's suspicions and he called in the police. Leung was unable to inform the police how he came by the coat and the pair of boots, and he was locked up. Sequel.—Fourteen days' hard.

A PRIVATE letter from Peking states that the health of the Emperor is exceedingly good in spite of the rumours that have been industriously spread about to the contrary. There are, however, indications that His Majesty is getting impatient at the restoration that has been placed upon him, since the